

Currents

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Megwa Ezhiweback



Mdaamini-Giizis (Corn Moon)
September 2010 Vol.7 Issue 9

ALSO IN THIS
PUBLICATION

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OGEMA ROMANELLI

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*Office of Public
Affairs*
Contact Information
1-888-723-8288
1-231-398-6840

Language Camp 2010



Annual Language and Cultural Camp was held at the Gathering Grounds in Manistee at the end of July. See the articles and pictures inside on this special event

Natural Resources Busy Month

Black Bear/Elk and 'Nme

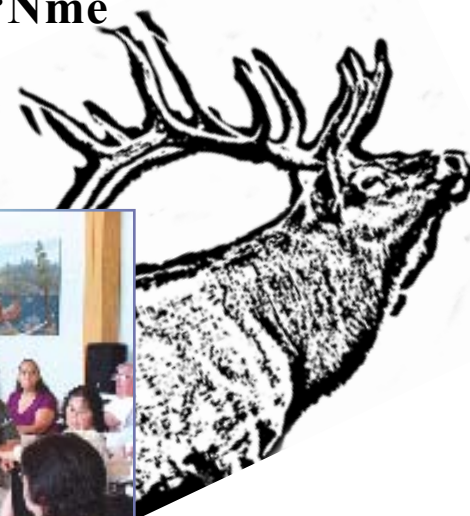
1st National Night Out in Manistee

The LRBOI Public Safety Department led in bringing this anti-crime program to the city.



MITW Changes

Changes to the Michigan Indian Tuition Waiver program were announced. Read the articles on pages 15 and 18 for more details



The Natural Resources Department had a busy month with their annual program presentation and Black Bear/Elk hunting permit drawing at Aki Maa-diziwin. See results of the drawings inside as well as the schedule for the 'Nme release.



Aanii,
Another successful year for the Language Camp thanks to Kenny Pheasant, crew and volunteers who keep this going and have for 17 years! I had the opportunity along with Tribal Council to serve lunch on the first day to participants. The weather held out and more

is written on the following pages. It's amazing how many other tribes look forward to this camp every year. Speaking of camps, our yearly Youth Camp is just getting underway at this writing, I will have more in the next issue of Currents.

On June 22nd our Little River Casino Resort was designated as an emergency shelter by way of an MOU, Memorandum of Understanding between the Tribe and the Red Cross. The resort has everything needed in an emergency, beds, bedding, food water, generator etc., so it is a great arrangement and enhances government to government relations therefore strengthening our tribal sovereignty. I want to thank our own TERT, Tribal Emergency Response Team for their continued efforts on behalf of this Tribe and Glenn Zaring for bringing it all together.

Just a reminder that our Fall Membership meeting is being held on October 9th this year again at the Little River Casino Resort. Please mark your calendars. I have received requests not to allow personnel issues to be discussed during the meeting which takes time away from other citizen's ability to speak on business of the Tribe and that will be honored. The Ogema's Meet and Greet will take place on Friday, October 8th from 6-8 PM.

Total membership is now 4,032 as of August 1st; 869 Elders; 2,679 Adults; 484 Minors; 9-County 1,777; Michigan 2,725; Outside of Michigan 1,247. Thanks again to Diane Lonn for providing that information.

Because of recent changes from the Election Board, our citizens now are required to register to vote. I believe this is a good thing for our citizenship and have supported this action. While it may be a little more difficult by having to sign before a Notary, (not sure the reasoning, but I'm sure the Election Board could tell us why), I believe it is the only way to achieve a quorum for citizens of this Tribe, giving them more of the powers the Constitution meant for them to have. While it still may be inconvenient, banks usually have notaries available and normally won't charge. Be sure to include a copy of your Tribal ID.

Our citizenship is more than 4,000 persons at this point. The Constitution calls for 30% of the membership to be present to achieve the quorum needed for the citizenship to take action. That means that 1,200 persons would be needed to get a quorum; even in our best meetings we get about 400. By making persons register to vote there is good possibility that the number needed for a quorum will be greatly reduced. I have been cautioned that this could also be abused in that the citizens would then have power to enact change on a regular basis; I am willing to take that chance.

In July, some Council Members and I had the opportunity to Wii bowl again with the Elders; again, with the same results, we got beat. But we vow to continue.

On July 11-13th, several Councilors and I traveled to Mt. Pleasant for triple meetings; the MAST Meeting, a United Tribes Meeting and a State Tribal Summit Meeting. Virgil Johnson, Candace

Chapman and Lee Sprague attended the meetings with me. The State Tribal Summit Meeting was the last one with Governor Granholm. She and her Attorney, John Wernet were praised for their work and support of tribes of Michigan.

At this writing, our Muskegon Casino Project continues to be held up at the State level with hopes it will soon make it through the House and into the Senate; we're keeping our fingers crossed. Hopefully, with the State Primary Elections over, things will start to move again.

The recent issue of across the board bonuses for government employees was not passed and I believe there was some misinformation circulating, but I will not debate it here, I only ask that people once again take care when reading info being put out and remember the Paul Harvey saying..."and now the rest of the story."

Public Safety Director, Joe LaPorte has accepted another position and will be leaving employment with Little River Band of Ottawa Indians. Joe's new title is Tribal Advisor to the Director of National Intelligence. Congratulations Joe! More information on following pages.

I want to acknowledge the entire Accounting Department for their recent and excellent audit report under the direction of Director Steve Wheeler. The department was issued an Unqualified Opinion, which is the highest opinion offered. I also want to mention that Steve Wheeler was also giving assistance to the Casino/Resort over past months. Thank you and congratulations to the entire department for all your hard work!

REMEMBER: I've become so absent-minded lately, sometimes right in the middle of a sentence I...

Tribes meet with Governor

Little River Band of Ottawa Indians tribal leaders met last month with Michigan Governor Jennifer Granholm.



Little River Band of Ottawa Indians tribal leaders met last month in Mt. Pleasant for the United Tribes and MAST meetings. Attending from Little River were Ogema Romanelli and Council members Virgil Johnson, Candace Chapman and Lee Sprague. Also in attendance was the Director of the LRBOI Commerce Department, Robert Memberto.

In conjunction with the meetings, the Ogema, Councilors Chapman and Johnson and Director Memberto met with Michigan's

outgoing Governor Jennifer Granholm.

Ogema Larry Romanelli spoke about the Governor following the meeting. He said, "...this Governor has been a friend to LRBOI. I thanked her for making the distance from her office to my office a short distance via (Counsel) John Wernet. We have been successful with our compact amendments and support from the Governor's Office. I gave our support for effort against the invasion of Asian carp and Cross Deputization agreements between the tribes and the State of Michigan." Romanelli added, "I stated that I wanted to protect the Great Lakes and I personally opposed angle drilling beneath the Great Lakes."

Council Member Candace Chapman commented, "In addition to expressing gratitude to Governor Granholm & Mr. Wernet for their ongoing support to LRBOI, I took the opportunity to discuss the preservation of Michigan's natural resources and the irrevocable harms posed by slant drilling in the Great Lakes. I also spoke

about the recent action taken by our Tribal Council to express the Tribe's distinct opposition to the current coal mining efforts in Upper Michigan that not only create a threat to the environment, but desecrate what a Sister Tribe considers to be Sacred Ground. Governor Granholm was a gracious host and although time was limited, I attempted to capitalize on what we had."

Council Member Virgil Johnson offered these two comments: "First, I thanked the Governor for the Cross Deputization (agreement) between our Natural Resources Enforcement and the State Police. It allowed LRBOI enforcement to ensure the implementation of the Consent Decree. Secondly, I also thanked the Governor in regard to the announcement of the Special Task Force for Michigan economic development. We (LRBOI) are looking at other economic opportunities besides gaming to support our tribe and it would be nice to get support from the State in this endeavor."

Recorder's Report to Membership- Aug 2010

Ordinances Posted for Public Comment:

GAMING ORDINANCE

The Tribal Council has concluded revisions on the Gaming Ordinance Amendments. One purpose of the new amendments is to restructure licensing qualifiers, to eliminate the requirement for a "key" or "gaming" license for all positions. If the amendments go through, there will be 'non-gaming' license classification that will allow citizens employment opportunities in specific areas of the operation that are not related to gaming activities. In addition, there are other proposed revisions that will allow non-gaming employees to play slot machines, as well as removing restrictions from gaming activity to certain classes of elected officials and government employees who were previously prohibited from gaming. The public comment period is currently open, and you are encouraged to contact the Tribal Council's webpage at: <https://www.lrboi-nsn.gov/council/public-comment-ordinances.html> to review the posted copy and summary of changes. The amendments to this ordinance, if enacted by Tribal Council, do not take effect unless the National Indian Gaming Commission also approves the modifications. Final revisions are subject to the NIGC's approval, so the effective date for any changes will be at a future point.

COMMISSIONS ORDINANCE

The Tribal Council has concluded revisions of the Commissions Ordinance. This ordinance establishes the basic requirements of the Commissions of the Tribe. In addition to this ordinance, Commissions are usually created by enactment of a law specific to the subject matter or area of regulation the Council is establishing the Commission for. Together, the creating ordinance and the Commissions Ordinance govern the aspects of any commission. Some of the highlights to the changes include that the Tribal Council is proposing removing the limitations currently in law against government employees being appointed to Commissions. Under the new amendments, government Directors may be appointed to serve on Commissions and employees will no longer be restricted from being seated on a commission. The public comment period is currently open, and you are encouraged to contact the Tribal Council's webpage at: <https://www.lrboi-nsn.gov/council/public-comment-ordinances.html> to review the posted copy and summary of changes.

WARRIORS SOCIETY ORDINANCE

This is a new piece of legislation that will legally establish the Warrior's Society as an entity of the Tribe. In the past, the Warrior's Society has been commonly known as the Veteran's Society, as well as the Ogitchida. This ordinance is "on deck" for public comment to be approved in August. If it is approved, there will not be time to provide notice in the Currents as has been done in the past, so please

check the public comment site noted above to see if the Ordinance was approved for public comment. It should appear on or about August 12, 2010.

July Hiring Numbers Submitted for Little River Casino & Resort

The Little River Casino and Resort has submitted their numbers for July. This item will appear on the Tribal Council's agenda on August 11, 2010. For the month of July, there were 18 positions filled, with 1 Tribal members hired. Overall, there are 86 Tribal Members employed out of 832 positions, or 11% member employment. In addition to the 86 Tribal Members, there are also 15 Descendants employed, 24 persons enrolled with other Federally Recognized tribes, and 23 spouses of LRBOI Tribal members currently employed by the Resort.

Council Members Attend Sunrise Ceremony at Indian Village

Councilors Steve Parsons, Loretta Beccaria, Sandy Mezeske, and Lee Sprague attended a sunrise ceremony at the Indian Village, located in Brethren Michigan. The ceremony was conducted as the kick off to the Youth Employment currently coordinated between the Peace Making Program and the Commerce Department. The location will also serve as the location for a future Youth Camp, which will be conducted by the Peace Making Department. The Youth Camp is an alternative process that will give tribal member youth, as well as descendants, an opportunity to learn from the land, as an intervention and steering process for better choices. If you have questions about the Youth Camp, please contact Austen Brauker in the Peace Making Department.

FY 2009 Government Financial Audit – Outstanding Results!

The Tribal Council met on July 29, with the external auditing firm, Rehman Robson, to review the results of the Single Audit conducted for FY 2009. The firm issued a clean audit report, meaning that there were no findings, and no corrections required, and the Little River Band Government's financial statements are compliant with all requirements. This is the very first time in the history of the Tribe that an audit opinion came back clean. After many years of hard work, system improvements, personnel changes, the reporting and tracking system of governmental financials has reached the best performance possible. The Audit will be filed with all public agencies as required by the Single Audit Act, on time!

Tribal Council Serves Lunch at Language Camp

The Tribal Council served lunch to the attendees at this year's language camp on July 23. At that time, there were well over 200 participants from various tribes, as well as our own LRBOI membership attending. The Language Camp will be covered by a separate article within the Currents.

Other Tribal Council Members Reporting to Membership

Included in this month's submission to the Currents, Tribal Council Members Loretta Beccaria, Virgil Johnson, Sandy Mezeske and Candace Chapman have also submitted an update to the membership of their activities. Those updates follow the Recorder's Report below.

Respectfully submitted,

Janine M. Sam

Recorder

From Councilor Beccaria:



The Construction Task Force has been in existence since January 2008, it was originally formed to oversee and expedite the construction of the Gas Station. The original group consisted of Oge-ma Romanelli, Steve Parsons, Bob Hardenburgh, Robert Whi-

teloon and Loretta Beccaria from Tribal Council, Robert Memberto from the Commerce Department. Once this group was put together in late January we went to work on the location and design of the Gas Station. With that decided, the work really began, Muschigon Construction Company rolled up their sleeves and the project was off the ground. To everyone's delight the project was completed approximately 45 days after the first shovel of dirt was moved, and the Little River Trading Post opened for business on Memorial Day Weekend 2008.

During the summer of 2008 this same group started working on spending down HUD Grant funds from 2002 that were due to be lost because no new houses were being constructed. When this project was started there were 17 housing units at AKI, now there are 28. There will be 15 more units within the next year and a half for a total 45 units. This is a major leap forward in a short time, with that said we are now in compliance with our HUD Grants, the money allocated by HUD for 2002 through 2007 have been spent, 2008 is almost completed. The good news is that we should be eligible for more funding given the fact that we have proven a need for housing, and have actually gotten them up and occupied. Personally I am very proud of the AKI Housing Project, the area looks very nice, and there will soon be a playground constructed for children, and an irrigation system to keep the grass green.

Also in 2008 this group was also given the job of getting the Community Center up and running. This project was not as easy because of the bad publicity and strict fund restrictions that were placed on this group, not to mention the short time frame to spend down the balance of the grant money allotted this project before it had to be paid back. This project was also completed in record time and on budget with the help of our Construction company. The group was also tasked with the construction of a Maintenance Building to store equipment needed to maintain the grounds at AKI.

The group has a different make up now than when we started, Bob Whiteloon resigned in late 08, Bob Hardenburgh passed on in late 09, and Robert Memberto was assigned to the Muskegon Project. We now have Steve Wheeler, Steve Parsons, Sandy Mezeske, and Loretta Beccaria as voting members, Frank Figgles and Dale Magoon take the responsibility for accounting issues and grant reporting. Dave Corey and Jim Medacco from Muschigon Construction have done a GREAT JOB building, and they have employed and taught tribal members a trade that can be useful the rest of their lives.

I personally want to thank the Task Force, Construction Company, along with Dale and Frank for their dedication and hard work. This has been one of the few projects that has continued to move forward with great results and has made me proud to be a part of because so many have benefited from our work.

Loretta Beccaria
Tribal Council

From Councilor Johnson:

Highlights for July 2010

Virg Johnson
Councilor At Large



- Attended the Open session Board of Directors meeting on July 16th
- 100% attendance for Council Meetings in July both open and closed.
- Attended one NRC commission meeting to fill in for

Council Liaison on July 21st .

- Attended and was recording secretary for Binojeeuk Commission on July 1st and July 15th .

- Follow up to make sure all payments for the LRCR were made on time. Four were required for July:

1. Term B(note commented that payment was made on due date)

2. Gross Gaming tax

3. Tribal Government Distribution

4. NIGC

- 100% attendance for the New Government Building task force meetings in July. The Task Force hosted an open forum for discussion at AKI community center July 3rd. The meeting was well attended.

- The Warrior Society carried flags for Be Da Bin and also Pow Wow Grand entry. Made sure flags and Eagle Staff was present for each event.

- Attended the Elders meeting on July 3rd .

- Attended the MAST meeting in Mt. Pleasant Mi hosted by Sag Chips. There were many discussions regarding Healthcare for tribal citizens in which our Jessica Burger was a presenter. Also in the meeting was discussed HUD opportunities for tribes. All but

two tribes from Michigan was present for this meeting.

- Attended the United Tribes meeting which was held the same day as the MAST meeting. In the meeting it was discussed about Asian Carp, the opening of a Mining operation in the Upper Peninsula, and Tuition Waivers for tribal citizens.

- Attended the Governor's Luncheon held at Soaring Eagle Resort. LRBOI had the opportunity to discuss our issues between the State and LRBOI in a closed session with the Governor and her Tribal Liaison (John Warnet).

Attended a special meeting at Indian Village to discuss how the property will be used to support the Indian Village Camp for young adults. I also attended the adult leadership training for this program.

From Councilor Mezeske:



Aanii,

I am still currently working with the Construction Task Force. This month the group chose flooring, carpet, siding, shingles, counter tops and paint for the new housing being built. If you are in the neighborhood of

Aki please stop by to see the progress. It is going to be beautiful when completed.

Council has approved for posting the new Gaming Ordinance and Commission Ordinance so please send us your comments because your comments are very important. The new Gaming Ordinance we have proposed will allow an increase in Tribal citizens to be hired at the Casino.

Steve Parsons and I are working with the Human Resource department to review all job descriptions; this has been a rewarding task.

Other events I attended this month was language camp where council served lunch, Wii bowling with the elders, and an opening ceremony for the youth camp at Indian Village.

I would like to remind all citizens to fill out their voter registration packet that were mailed this month to all.

Please feel free to contact at any time by phone or email 398-6854, smezeske@lrboi.com.

Until next month,

Sandy Lempke-Mezeske

From Councilor Chapman:



AN UPDATE FROM COUNCILOR CANDACE CHAPMAN

Tribal News...

From July 11, 2010 through July 13, 2010 I attended the United Tribes and MAST (Midwest Alliance of Sovereign Tribes) meetings held in Mount Pleasant, Michigan. It was an honor to participate in strengthening government to government re-

lations as Tribal Leaders gathered to address public policy issues and initiatives at the state, regional and federal level. These meetings continue to provide an excellent opportunity for Tribes to coalesce our efforts to protect the mutual interests of Indigenous people.

Two of the many important issues discussed were:

• Michigan Indian Tuition Waiver – changes to the Michigan Indian Tuition Waiver now exclude state historic tribes. Students from the Grand River Band of Ottawa Indians and the Burt Lake Band of Ottawa and Chippewa Indians who once qualified for the waiver will no longer be eligible.

- Indian Health Care Improvement Act – One important fact of this Act is that it has been permanently adopted and does not require periodic reauthorization. There are many important changes to review. To learn more, type in the following link: http://www.nihb.org/docs/05142010/IHCIA_Reauthorization_Summary_Table_IHS.PDF

Every Tribe was allotted a brief meeting with Governor Granholm. Although we all expressed gratitude for the continued support for the Nation's Tribes, I took this opportunity to express a deep concern regarding current efforts to pursue slant drilling in the Great Lakes, and the permanent damage it could cause to Michigan's natural resources. Continuing on with the concept of preservation, I also addressed Tribal Council's recent action to oppose current coal mining efforts in Upper Michigan and the impacts suffered on Sacred Ground. Governor Granholm was a pleasant host and it was an honor to represent the voice of our people.

Research, Review and Report... Changes to the current Tribal Council and Ogea's Ethics Ordinance are proposed. The purpose is to integrate consequences for violations of this Ordinance and increase the level of accountability for Elected Officials. Work Sessions are scheduled every week to address the potential changes. Upon completion, it will be presented for a vote of the Tribal Council to post for public comment. Additional legislative work sessions include: Adam Walsh/SORNA Act, Constitutional Amendments, Prosecutor's Ordinance, Contracting Ordinance and Certificate of Rehabilitation to name a few. Your Tribal Council has kept busy.

A Few Financial Details.... Tribal Council met with executive staff and members of the Rehman Robson Auditing Firm on July 29, 2010 to review the Single Audit. I am happy to inform our Tribal Citizens that there were no findings reported.

• All of the Casino payments were reported to have been made on time. Additional Attendance Info... Additional Work Session: June 8, 2010 Binojeeuk Commission Meetings: July 1, 2010 and July 15, 2010 Governmental Center Task Force Meetings: July 1, 2010, July 8, 2010, July 15, 2010, July 22,

A Few Financial Details....

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• All of the Casino payments were reported to have been made on time.

Additional Attendance Info...

Additional Work Session: June 8, 2010

Binojeeuk Commission Meetings: July 1, 2010 and July 15, 2010

Governmental Center Task Force Meetings: July 1, 2010, July 8, 2010, July 15, 2010, July 22,

2010 and July 29, 2010

United Tribes and MAST Meeting: July 11, 2010 – July 13, 2010

Special Thanks...

As the Liaison to the Binojeeuk Commission, I would like to thank to Kim Alexander, Harriet Grantsyn, Carol Gibner, Virgil Johnson, Gene Zeller, Bill Memberto and our Family Services Department staff for their continued effort with the protection of our Tribal Children.

Although competing priorities have limited my time, I would also like to say I am thankful to serve as a part of a group that was established to work on the creation of an Elder's Protection Code. This group meets the 1st and 3rd Tuesday of every month from 10:00 am. - 12:00 pm. Participants include, Lee Iverson, Denise Lewis, Spring Leusby, Marcella Leusby, Gene Zeller, Holly Davis, Officer Dave DeForest, Angie Turner and Bill Memberto. My apologies if I may have missed someone however I thought our Citizens should know of those who are stepping up to go above and beyond!

In closing, I would like to thank all of those who found the time to express their thoughts on a rather controversial issue recently placed on Tribal Council's agenda. Your input was much appreciated.

Tribal Council on Legislative Recess

The Tribal Council will be on Legislative Recess, beginning August 30, through September 6. The Council will return to the office on September 7. Support staff are expected to be available in the office during that week. Please contact Kathleen Block or Grace Hendler during that week, if you need to reach a member of your Tribal Council.



Date	Work Session Title	Steve Parsons	Janine Sam	Loretta Beccaria	Candace Chapman	Virgil Johnson	Sandy Mezeske	Pat Ruiter	Lee Sprague	Robert Whiteloon	Total Attending
7/3/10	Public Input-Gov't Center	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	9
7/6/10	Ogema/Council Wkly Mtg	x	x	x	x	x	x	x		x	8
7/6/10	Update from Speaker Parsons	x	x	x	x	x	x	x		x	8
7/6/10	Agenda Review	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	9
7/6/10	Govt Financial Rpt May 2010	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	9
7/12/10	Proposal for Sub Contractor	x	x	x			x				4
7/12/10	Agenda Review	x	x	x			x	x		x	6
7/19/10	Agenda Review	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	9
7/20/10	Commissioners Ordinance	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	9
7/20/10	Gaming Ordinance	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	9
7/20/10	Ogema/Council Wkly Mtg	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	9
7/26/10	ALJ/Ombudsman/Employment	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	9
7/26/10	Agenda Review	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	9
7/26/10	PTO Bank Policy	x	x	x	x	x	x	x		x	8
7/26/10	LRCR Financial Report	x	x	x	x	x	x			x	7
7/27/10	Tax & Administration Ordinance	x	x	x	x	x	x	x		x	8
7/27/10	Ogema/Council Wkly Mtg	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	9
7/27/10	Northwest Council of Gov'ts	x	x	x		x		x	x	x	7
7/29/10	2009 Single Audit Review	x	x	x	x	x	x	x			7
7/29/10	ALJ/Ombudsman/Employment	x	x	x	x	x	x	x		x	8
7/30/10	Constitution Changes			x	x	x	x	x		x	6
7/30/10	TC/Ogema Ethics Ordinance			x	x	x	x	x		x	6
7/30/10	Rights Protection (Treaty)			x	x	x	x	x		x	6
23	Totals for JULY	20	20	23	20	21	22	21	11	21	



Throughout the process to build a casino in Muskegon, community support has been a key factor. These editorials ran in the Muskegon Chronicle following a hearing at Muskegon Community College.

Muskegon Chronicle
Published: Wednesday, July 14, 2010

Editorial: Muskegon wants a casino

No more meetings, just vote

If Friday's display of support for a proposed tribal casino in Muskegon County can't move the project forward, nothing can.

An amendment to the Little River Band's casino compact, which would allow the tribe to construct a casino at the former Great Lakes Downs racetrack site, has been tied up in politics since the resolution was introduced April 15 by Rep. Doug Bennett, D-Muskegon Twp.

While many expected this proposal, allowing the tribe to open a second casino "off reservation," to sail through the Legislature, it has stirred up some interesting opposition with some powerful backers.

Even though the governor already has signed off on the compact, Democratic leaders in the House — including a candidate for governor — decided to hold a series of hearings on the issue. Last Friday's was the third.

More than 150 people attended the morning meeting that had been scheduled, canceled and then rescheduled. Of the 41 people addressing Rep. Bert Johnson, D-Detroit, chairman of the House Regulatory Reform Committee, only five were opposed to a casino.

While the concerns the opponents raised about the cost of a casino to a community in terms of gambling addiction and increased traffic and crime, are valid and need to be addressed, the real issue is jobs.

More than 12,000 Muskegon County residents are unemployed with several thousand more under-employed. The creation of more than 1,000 jobs will go a long way to addressing the problem. It has been estimated the average pay for the 755 "direct" jobs created by the casino would be \$40,000.

It's clear Muskegon County cannot place all its job creation hopes in the basket of a new casino, but a boost to the tourism sector of the area economy will help. Muskegon needs

more year-round entertainment venues. A casino will draw visitors from a wider area and offer them something to do at night after — or maybe before — they've visited our highly rated museums, Michigan's Adventure and beaches or attended a concert or play at the Frauenthal Theater or a hockey game at the L.C. Walker arena or spent a day at the Winter Sports Complex.

The proposed development surrounding the casino includes a hotel and the hopes that many more restaurants and shops will open to serve casino visitors. Of course, county residents and non-casino visitors also will be able to frequent these new businesses.

And maybe one of those casino visitors will be an entrepreneur who will see the "new" Muskegon County, a place that is trying to develop all of its assets — a manufacturing base and commercial port, top-notch health care system, agriculture, green energy potential, energy and environmental research and tourism and recreation — into a thriving economy. And that entrepreneur might want to move to such a terrific community and open a business.

Muskegon County just needs a little help. Right now, the Legislature needs to OK the tribal compact changes so that the issue can move on to the federal level. There's still years of studies and approvals that need to be accomplished before a casino can be built. People are unemployed right now.

Of course, competing tribal casinos and the three corporate casinos in Detroit are concerned about more competition. And it's an election year, so lawmakers are listening a little more closely than they might be next year.

But isn't competition what makes businesses strong? And isn't it new businesses paying taxes and supporting their communities what makes the state strong?

We're talking up to a \$400 million investment in Muskegon County when you count the multiplier effect. Who could say no to that?

The Muskegon Chronicle ran two Letters to the editor today, one supporting Muskegon casino and another opposing....

http://www.mlive.com/opinion/muskegon/index.ssf/2010/07/letters_casino_will_help_muske.html

Letters:

Casino will help Muskegon expand tourism

Published: Friday, July 16, 2010, 6:51 AM
The Muskegon Chronicle

I was once told that regardless of the situation, be it war, politics, terrorism, or how we decide on just about anything, it all boils down to basic economics. When I look at any situation where I have trouble discerning the "why," as soon as I throw in the economic perspective, it starts to make sense.

I really wanted to attend the July 9 meeting at Muskegon Community College discussing the potential Little River Casino in Fruitport, but, for whatever reason (they still have not responded to my inquiry), WZZM announced on the morning news that the meeting was canceled. Beats me, but because of that, I did not go.

Listening to the news that evening, I heard Gary Post express his objections. None of them made much sense to me, kind of idle prattle about taking the easy way out, so I looked him up. Ta-da, there it was. He is spearheading several projects including the Russell Block Market and other downtown Muskegon endeavors. He obviously thinks the casino will take away from his downtown Muskegon economic gains.

For a seemingly intelligent businessman, he sure is missing the forest for the trees. There are currently no major year-round draws to Muskegon. That's why so many businesses go belly-up. Post's may also if some changes are not made. The casino-resort would certainly be a big step in that direction. I applaud Post for his efforts in downtown Muskegon and wish him great success, but I think he's missing the big opportunity a casino resort will provide.

I have to go off on a tangent here because I can't understand all of the objections to the

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Casino will help Muskegon expand tourism


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I was once told that regardless of the situation, be it war, politics, terrorism, or how we decide on just about anything, it all boils down to basic economics. When I look at any situation where I have trouble discerning the "why," as soon as I throw in the economic perspective, it starts to make sense.

I really wanted to attend the July 9 meeting at Muskegon Community College discussing the potential Little River Casino in Fruitport, but, for whatever reason (they still have not responded to my inquiry), WZZM announced on the morning news that the meeting was canceled. Beats me, but because of that, I did not go.

Listening to the news that evening, I heard Gary Post express his objections. None of them made much sense to me, kind of idle prattle about taking the easy way out, so I looked him up. Ta-da, there it was. He is spearheading several projects including the Russell Block Market and other downtown Muskegon endeavors. He obviously thinks the casino will take away from his downtown Muskegon economic gains.

For a seemingly intelligent businessman, he sure is missing the forest for the trees. There are currently no major year-round draws to



Muskegon. That's why so many businesses go belly-up. Post's may also if some changes are not made. The casino-resort would certainly be a big step in that direction. I applaud Post for his efforts in downtown Muskegon and wish him great success, but I think he's missing the big opportunity a casino resort will provide.

I have to go off on a tangent here because I can't understand all of the objections to the casino yet nobody protests Nugent Sand. This Kentucky company has been raping our beautiful shore since the early 1900s when it sold Pigeon Hill — the biggest sand dune on the east

coast of Lake Michigan. They continue to pillage our great natural resources for other states to profit while polluting our great lake with residual runoff.

Initially, I believed that Nugent Sand was forgiven for this grievous sin because it hired so many locals. Then I read that they had a grand total of 45 employees. A beach club or resort would hire twice that many people with no pollution and out of town money coming to Muskegon, not going to Kentucky. What a concept!!

Muskegon, like Grand Rapids, had better come to the realization that the factory/mill era is over. Grand Rapids does not have a beach so they went medical. They have been immensely successful. We have a far greater beach than Grand Haven and all we need is a major draw.

I hope we don't let this opportunity pass. If we don't change directions pretty quickly Muskegon, like Detroit with its unrealistic dream of a factory resurgence, will continue to maintain the state's highest unemployment rate.

And besides, tourism is a lot more fun.

Bill Roche

Muskegon

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Opposing side

http://www.mlive.com/opinion/muskegon/index.ssf/2010/07/letters_seven_reasons_to_rejec.html

Letters:

Seven reasons to reject the casino

Published: Friday, July 16, 2010, 6:50 AM
The Muskegon Chronicle

I am listing seven reasons the casino proposed for Fruitport Township should be rejected. I hope that others will give them consideration and call for rejection.

1. It should be delayed until a fair hearing is held in Muskegon County. The Chronicle explained that at 12:02 p.m. July 8, the hearing was canceled and at 2:21 p.m. July 8, it was back on. I would have spoken against the casino if TV-13 had not announced at 7:30 a.m. July 9 that the hearing was canceled. Others also would like to express their views.

Participation by pro-casino people was well orchestrated with orange T-shirts printed in advance. Evaluators should not just go by numbers with such a flawed hearing.

2. Citizens of Michigan voted against the proliferation of casinos in Michigan. Now advocates for the casino want to set that vote aside by vote of the legislators. A casino should not be approved without another statewide vote.

3. Compacts were made between the tribes pertaining to off reservation casinos. Historically treaties were broken with Native Americans. Will the Department of Indian Affairs approve of disregarding compacts? I should hope not. It isn't just a slight alteration but negating the main point of the compact.

4. The casino is presented as the answer to Muskegon's economic problems, but there is no mention of the negative effects that would be felt communitywide. The casino should be rejected because the tribe will enter into contract with a gambling firm that will suck millions of dollars each year from Muskegon's economy, money that could be used in constructive ways.

5. Michigan's legislators and federal agencies should take into consideration the fact that the majority of gamblers come from a 50-mile radius. A large portion of victims would come from Muskegon and Muskegon Heights where many are unemployed or under-employed. Almost all of the unemployed would not be employed by the casino. Politicians who want the casino for tax dollars should be ashamed of levying a tax upon the poor. The Chronicle printed a series of articles about lottery sales which showed that sales are highest in low income communities. The same would be true for slot machines.

6. Decision-makers and investors should take into consideration the failure of the racetrack which was on the same site. I can remember that an opponent to the racetrack pleaded with the first investor from Swartz Creek not to lose their money in the venture.

7. Finally, the casino should be rejected for moral reasons, taking seriously God's law of love for one's neighbor. Instead of inviting a business to take advantage of the weaknesses of others, everyone should do what they can to make the community a better place in which to live. Many will want to add their prayers to their efforts and concern for the welfare of the community.

Rev. William Randall

Muskegon

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Please Join Us at the 7th Annual Sturgeon Release Ceremony



The Little River Band of Ottawa Indians Natural Resources Department is happy to announce the 7th annual 'Nmé (Lake Sturgeon) Release Ceremony from the Streamside Rearing Facility on the Manistee River on Saturday, September 25th. Everyone is welcome.

The ceremony will include tours of the Little River Band's sturgeon rearing facility, informational posters about lake sturgeon, and children's activities. The day will incorporate information on the historical and cultural use of sturgeon and current rehabilitation projects. All attendees will receive a commemorative gift at the ceremony. The event will conclude with the release of sturgeon into the Big Manistee River in which all elders attending will have the opportunity to participate in releasing a fish.

Similar to last year, smoked whitefish will be available for people to taste. Sturgeon have historically been utilized by Native people from the Great Lakes as a source of food.

The release will be held at the Streamside Rearing Facility, located at the U.S. Forest Service Rainbow Bend access site on the Big Manistee River, on Saturday, September 25th from 2:30-4 pm. Streamside rearing facility tours will begin at 2:30 and the release ceremony will start at 3:30. For more information please call the LRBOI Natural Resources Department at (231) 723-1594.

This unique event celebrates a widely recognized Natural Resources success story of a streamside rearing facility that helps the restoration of a rare Michigan native species. This process, developed by LRBOI, is now being used in four other locations across the Great Lakes.

Fall Salmon Harvest in Streams and Rivers

Many opportunities exist for the harvest of salmon in the streams and rivers of the 1836 Ceded Territory, including hook and line, spears, bows and hand nets. Under the 2007 Inland Consent Decree, the LRBOI will continue regulating salmon harvest similar to years in the past.

All Streams and Rivers except the Little Manistee River:

Hook and line, spearing, bowfishing and handnet techniques may be used. Throughout the 1836 Ceded Territory, your Tribal ID card serves as your fishing license.

For hook and line fishing:

- No permit or harvest reporting card is needed.
- 5 fish per salmon species per day, all fish must be at least 12 inches long.

For spears, bowfishing and handnets:

- Permits are not required but a harvest reporting card must be acquired from the LRBOI Natural Resources Department and must be returned within 7 days of harvest.
- 5 fish per salmon species per day, all fish must be at least 12 inches long.
- Spears and bowfishing are not allowed in 4 Upper Peninsula streams - Chocolay, Mosquito, Big Two hearted and Little Two Hearted. All other methods are allowed.
- Atlantic salmon shall not be speared in the Torch Lake watershed.

Chinook Harvest on the Little Manistee River:

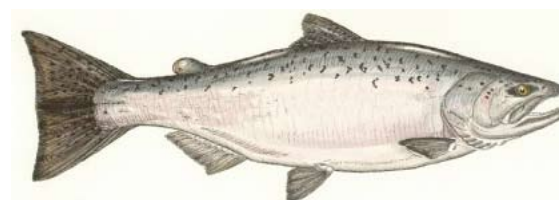
The Little Manistee River is an egg-take and salmon harvest facility operated by the Michigan Department of Natural Resources and Environment. The weir is used to block Chinook salmon so eggs can be collected. The eggs collected at the weir are sent to State Fish Hatcheries where they are raised and stocked all over Michigan. Eggs are also supplied to other states. In the 2007 Inland Consent Decree the State and the Tribes agreed to protect the Chinook salmon in the Little Manistee River during egg collection while maintaining Tribal harvest. Regulations and opportunities for the Little Manistee River Chinook salmon harvest are presented below:

- From September 1st to November 14th, spears and bows may be used to harvest salmon from 300 feet below the weir to the south end of Manistee Lake (See fishing regulations Table 6, Note 3 for specific locations). Hook and line may not be used in the Little Manistee River below the weir to harvest salmon *during this period*.
- Permits **and** harvest report cards are required and can be acquired at the LRBOI Natural Resource Department. Harvest report cards must be returned within 7 days of harvest. You must carry your permit with you when bowfishing, spearing, or netting.
- There are weekly quotas established and permits will be allocated until the quota is met for the week. Total allocation for the 2010 season is 402 fish for all

five tribes. Permits will be distributed on a first come, first served basis.

- If/when the Michigan Department of Natural Resources and Environment meets its Chinook salmon egg take goals for the year there will be no quotas.
- Hook-and-Line fishing is closed in the southern end of Manistee Lake from September 6 through October 15 (See Fishing Regulations 6.04.G).
- Hook-and-Line fishing, bowfishing, spearing, and hand netting are allowed above the weir (no permit needed, you do need to fill out a harvest report within 7 days).

Please contact the Natural Resources Department for more information: (231) 723-1594.





(Seeking Submissions for a book of literature and art on the contemporary American Indian experience in Michigan)
The anthology will be published by Northern Michigan University's Center for: Native American Studies and NMU Press, with funding from the Michigan Humanities Council.

Please submit your original, unpublished poem, short story, creative nonfiction essay, memoir, profile, cartoon, comic strip, stand alone excerpt from a longer work, drawing, illustration, or photograph that depicts the contemporary Native American experience in Michigan. Submissions must be one-half page to 12 pages in length.

The editors are interested in stories and art by and/or about recent Michigan Indians. We seek texts and images addressing "contemporary Indian identity in Michigan." Who and what are Michigan Indians today? What are their lives like in Michigan in the 21st century? How have their experiences and those of their ancestors influenced or informed who they are? Are there Indian "transplants" who bring perspectives from other places that diversify the Michigan experience? How do they enrich us?

Topics and subjects may include, but are not limited to: the land, the lakes, family, the search for center, ideas of time and the past, communalism and our Native communities on and off reservation home-

lands, orality, storytelling, the power of words and symbols, Indian education, places and Indian place making in the state, sacred site retention and loss, Indian/land reciprocity, the Michigan urban Indian experience, ceremony and ritual, persistence of traditional arts and lifeways, and new cultural ways.

All work must reflect being Indian in Michigan and, at some point, it must focus on or address issues of Indian modernity. Humorous submissions are encouraged. While the anthology, tentatively titled *Who We Are Now: Storying Michigan Indigenes*, may be used in classrooms, it is intended for a general audience. Authors/artists whose work is included in the anthology will receive two copies of the book as remuneration.

Mail or email manuscripts (up to 4,000 words or a maximum of 12 pages), poems or images (up to three, color or black and white, 300 dpi minimum). Submit to:

Grace Chaillier, Project Coordinator

Who We Are Now: Storying Michigan Indigenes (working title) NMU Center for Native American Studies www.nmu.edu/nativeamericans
1401 Presque Isle Avenue
Marquette, MI 49855

New Staff at LRBOI

The tribal government has filled some key staff positions recently in both Legislative and Executive branches. Grace Hendler has signed on as Administrative Assistant to Tribal Council where she brings her excellent admin skills to bear for Council.

Dr. Jill Witt



The Natural Resources Department has filled the key role of Senior Wildlife Biologist with Dr. Jill Witt. She has an interesting background and submitted this brief bio.

Education:

- Ph.D. from Michigan Tech – where I studied the mechanisms by which white-

tailed deer select eastern hemlock forests as winter habitat, and consequently, the effect that this use is having on hemlock regeneration.

- B.S. Michigan State – Zoology
- M.S. Grand Valley – Biology

Some of my more interesting work experience:

- AmeriCorps member – served with the US Fish and Wildlife Service monitoring sea turtle nesting and wildlife habitat in south Florida and the Everglades.
- Zookeeper for the Detroit Zoo

Personal:

- Married to Steven Bailey who, starting this fall, will be a faculty member in the English department at Central Michigan University.

- In the process of adopting a two-year old little boy named Kip from Uganda, who we can't wait to have tribal citizens meet!

Hobbies:

- Hiking, camping, international travel, photography, and fishing....and I just recently caught my very first steelhead (32") while canoeing the greater Manistee River!

Jamie Yenchar



As the Domestic Violence Coordinator, I will be continuing the Domestic Violence Awareness programs currently offered and beginning new services such as victim advocating, service coordination, and the development of new relationships within our communities. I am already getting prepared for October 2010, the National Domestic Violence Awareness Month with activities and displays! I am also going to be attending the Fall Membership Meeting. I hope to see many of you there!

Oh, and just a reminder to keep up with the Little River Currents and Rapid River News for the upcoming events in October! "

Grace Hendler



I am originally from Bradley, Michigan. I went to Elementary there and graduated from Wayland High School. I went to Davenport College of Business and obtained skills to work in an office setting. I worked for the Social Security Administration's Office of Hearings and Appeals for five years where I gained more skills and training. I would have worked there for the rest of my service but something tragic happened and I

moved out of the city. I relocated to Big Rapids, Michigan and eventually here to Manistee to find employment. Alyce called me out of the blue and I agreed to come up here and work. Since then I have made many new friends, even found some relatives and learning how the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians maintains everything on a working basis. I am happy that I was accepted as the new Tribal Secretary. I enjoy working for my Tribe and I am learning a lot about my own culture. It seems like everything is a first time for me, once again, you know. I started out at the Administration Building in November 2009 and that is when I moved here also. I live out in the woods where I feel comfortable and it's great to wake up with fresh air and the quiet is astounding. I wake up to animal sounds which is great and I didn't realize there were so many different kinds that I never heard before. It is so peaceful and non-rushed and I love living here.

I have five children: four sons Stevie (23), Nicholas (21), Joshua (19) and Lucas (9). I have only one daughter Tara (17). I would eventually like to buy a house here, with the Tribe's assistance, for us and finish my years in government service. I enjoy my job and learning about our people. I would also like to learn the language because I believe that is important to our families and what can be passed on to our children. It's great when you get to learn with your children! There hasn't been any place that I have found where I feel accepted and I like that and so does my children. I believe I will be here for a long time. Miigwetch Little River Band!

Greetings from the Utility Department, In keeping with the U.S. Safe Drinking Water Act, we are required to sample your drinking water for various contaminants for protection of the public health.

During a recent sampling period for Lead and Copper four of twenty sites were above the action level for lead. The other sixteen sites were below the action level.

The action level for lead is 0.015 or 15 parts per billion.

We have re-sampled the four highest sites and found that two of those sites remained at or above the action level. Certain steps have been initiated to address this issue. Please read the lead statement in this issue for information that may affect you.

With time constraints and current workload required of the utility staff to maintain the water and sewerage systems, we have been fortunate enough via the Ogema and Council to contract a chemist expediting our laboratories planned expansion in drinking water sampling. Another goal of the utilities was to review the current procedures we are using, to be as effective and cost conscious as possible. Mr John O'Herron has been under contract and we have been expanding our testing capabilities for various parameters in drinking water while reviewing our current procedures for wastewater. Thanks to

Mr. O'Herron who has spent the needed time reviewing the standards methods book for drinking water and wastewater analysis and creating the needed S.O.P.'s for EPA certification of our laboratory services. While we are still at the beginning stages of certification it is our goal to be fully certified for various parameters by mid-summer 2012.

John is a lifelong resident of Manistee and has been a tutor for students at West Shore Community College.

We are now at the point in the Laboratory expansion process that we can move forward and have posted a permanent job description for a chemist full time with the goal of offering our sampling services to the General Public. This is not an added "new position" to the department but is a replacement for a recently vacated position, which used to be a Maintenance technician. The maintenance responsibilities have been added to the current staff, of which I would like to thank Rodney Mathews and Joshua Stone for their added efforts to maintain the department's equipment. I would also like to thank Sally Bell for her efforts in assisting in keeping all the administrative duties and billing paperwork flowing!

It is the Utilities Department goal as a certified laboratory to generate revenue. Revenue generation will be cause for expansion of the labo-

ratory allowing us to offer more tribal members, the opportunity to get into the wastewater and water industries. This may also provide a stepping-stone of education for tribal members seeking degrees in Chemistry and or Biology/Micro-Biology.

As part of this lab review process Mr. O'Herron has taken and successfully completed the S-5 exam offered by the MDNRE furthering his assistance capabilities for operators taking exams.

I would also like to congratulate Joshua Stone (tribal member) for passing the S-5 exam, obtaining his certification in water distribution!

With the successful completion of this exam and knowledge learned about the water distribution, wastewater collection and treatment systems Josh has been placed in the on call rotation (rotated between staff members on a weekly basis), which requires a quick as possible response time for emergencies after hours including weekends. Congratulations to Josh for his efforts on behalf of the Utility Department!!!

Josh's next exam will be the S-4 in November of this year...Good Luck!

Megwetch,
Gary Lewis, Utility Supervisor Utility Department
Mailing Address: 375 River St.
Physical Address: 2539 Dontz Rd.
Manistee Mi, 49660
(231) 398-2299

The United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and Little River Band of Ottawa Indians are concerned about lead in the drinking water. Four of twenty drinking water samples taken from the L.R.B.O.I. water system had a lead level above the EPA action level of 15 parts per billion (ppb), or 0.015 milligrams of lead per liter (mg/L) of water. Re-sampling was conducted and two of the four highest, had levels higher than the action level. Under Federal law, the L.R.B.O.I. water system is required to have a program in place to minimize lead in this system. This program includes corrosion control treatment, source water treatment, and public education. If you have any questions about how we are carrying out the requirements of the lead regulation, please give us a call at (231) 398-2299. The following article has simple steps you can take to protect you and your family by reducing your exposure to lead in drinking water at home.

HEALTH EFFECTS OF LEAD

Lead is found throughout the environment in lead-based paint, air, soil, household dust, food, certain types of pottery, porcelain and pewter, and water. Lead can pose a significant risk to your health if too much of it enters your body. Lead builds up in the body over many years and can cause damage to the brain, red blood cells and kidneys. The greatest risk is to young children and pregnant women. Amounts of lead that will not hurt adults can slow down normal mental and physical development of growing bodies. In addition, a child at play often comes into contact with sources of lead contamination - like dirt and dust - that rarely affect an adult. It is important to wash children's hands and toys often, and to try to make sure they only put food in their mouths.

Lead in Drinking Water

LEAD IN DRINKING WATER

(A) Lead in drinking water, although rarely the sole cause of lead poisoning can significantly increase a person's total lead exposure, particularly the exposure of infants who drink baby formulas and concentrated juices that are mixed with water. The EPA estimates that drinking water can make up 20 percent or more of a person's total exposure to lead.

(B) Lead is unusual among drinking water contaminants in that it seldom occurs naturally in water supplies like rivers and lakes. Lead enters drinking water primarily as a result of the corrosion, or wearing away, of materials containing lead in the water distribution system and household plumbing. These materials include lead-based solder used to join copper pipe, brass and chrome-plated brass faucets, and in some cases, pipes made of lead that connect houses and buildings to water mains (service lines). In 1986, Congress banned the use of lead solder containing greater than 0.2% lead, and restricted the lead content of faucets, pipes and other plumbing materials to 8.0%.

(C) When water stands in lead pipes or plumbing systems containing lead for several hours or more, the lead may dissolve into your drinking water. This means the first water drawn from the tap in the morning, or later in the afternoon if the water has not been used all day, can contain fairly high levels of lead.

STEPS YOU CAN TAKE IN THE HOME TO REDUCE EXPOSURE TO LEAD IN DRINKING WATER

(A) Let the water run from the tap before using it for drinking or cooking any time the water in a faucet has gone unused for more than six hours. The longer water resides in plumbing the more lead it may contain. Flushing the tap means running the cold-water faucet for about 15-30 seconds. Although toilet flushing or showering flushes water through a portion of the plumbing system, you still need to flush the water in each faucet before using it for drinking or cooking. Flushing tap water is a simple and inexpensive measure you can take to protect your health. It usually uses less than one gallon of water.

(B) Do not cook with, or drink water from the hot water tap. Hot water can dissolve more lead more quickly than cold water. If you need hot water, draw water from the cold tap and then heat it.

(C) The steps described above will reduce the lead concentrations in your drinking water. However, if you are still concerned, you may wish to use bottled water for drinking and cooking.

(D) You can consult a variety of sources for additional information. Your family doctor or pediatrician can perform a blood test for lead and provide you with information about the health effects of lead.



During the months of July and August 2010, the Workforce Development Program through the LRBOI Commerce Department placed seven interns through its' Internship Program. Tribal Citizens and Preference students who meet program requirements are placed in an internship of 240 hours at a tribal government department or at an LRBOI business entity. Pictured are four of the seven interns from left to right: Leigh Davis, Kelsey Davis, Patti Pacola and Justin Caswell. Leigh Davis of Manistee is an intern at Natural Resources and is an honor student at Michigan State University where she is majoring in Public Policy, Urban Planning and Environmental Studies. Kelsey Davis of Manistee is an intern at Commerce and will be attending Western Michigan University in the Fall. She will be taking courses to prepare her for a career in Law. Patti Pacola of Luther has just completed her internship at Human Resources. Patti is a Baker College student majoring in Human Resources/Management. Justin Caswell of Kalamazoo is interning in the Marketing Department at Little River Casino Resort. Justin is a Dean's List student at Kalamazoo Valley Community College where he is studying toward an Associate's Degree in Business Administration of Applied Science.

Additional interns (not pictured) include Ariel Lucas of Luther at the Health Clinic, Daniel Leek of Muskegon in Maintenance, and Tahca Milk of Traverse City in Maintenance/Automotive. Ariel will be entering Ferris State University in the Fall in the Pre Pharmacy program as an honors Freshman. Daniel will be attending Muskegon Community College in the Fall where he will be studying for an Associate's Degree. Tahca is an honor student at Northwestern Michigan College in the Automotive Service Technology program.

Information about the Internship program may be obtained by contacting

David Hawley, Workforce Development Specialist at the Commerce Department, 294 River Street, Manistee, phone 231-398-6842, e-mail dhawley@lrboi.com, or on the LRBOI website at www.lrboi-nsn.gov/commerce.

Vouchers for Tribal New Hires

Vouchers for Newly Hired Tribal Citizens.
LRBOI Tribal Citizens at least 18 years of age who are newly hired may qualify for a Career Assistance Voucher of \$200.00 and/or an Employment Daycare Assistance Voucher of \$250.00 through the LRBOI Workforce Development Program. If you are a new hire, please contact the Workforce Development Specialist within 30 days of hire at 231-398-6842, toll free at 1-888-723-8288 extension 6842, or by e-mail at dhawley@lrboi.com.

TPS Director takes D.C. Job!

The Office of the Director of National Intelligence has announced that long-time LRBOI Public Safety Director Joseph LaPorte has been chosen to fill the new position of Tribal Advisor to the Director.

LaPorte, a well known name in Tribal Law Enforcement circles is the head of the International Association of Chiefs of Police – Indian Section and has been called upon numerous times to testify before Congress and committees concerning law enforcement issues affecting Indian Country. Most recently Director LaPorte has been working on a temporary assignment in Washington D. C. for the tribe and federal government.

LaPorte' duties under his new position include serving as the principal advisor and expert regarding tribal partner government processes, capabilities, information needs and contributions. He will help the collaborative effort with tribal partners and the Information Sharing Environment (ISE). Another part of LaPorte' duties will include identifying tribal information gaps and solutions to allow for more effective tribal interaction.

Last week, President Barack Obama signed into law the Tribal Law and Order Act of 2010 which provides a basis for improving crime-fighting in tribal country through improved information sharing and access among other aspects. (See accompanying article). Having someone of Director LaPorte' experience will be extremely valuable as this law is implemented. The National Congress of American Indians (NCAI) several weeks ago even solicited Joe's support of the Tribal Law and Order bill to help ensure its passage.

Parenting Class Comes to Manistee in September

Positive Indian Parenting:
Honoring Our Children
By Honoring our Traditions



LRBOI Family Services Department will again be offering Positive Indian Parenting class once a week in Manistee beginning September 23rd through November 11th from 5:30-7:30 pm at former Community Center.

The eight-week curriculum was developed by the National Indian Child Welfare Association to provide a brief, practical, and culturally specific training program for Indian parents. The goals of the program are to help Indian parents: 1) explore the values and attitudes expressed in traditional Indian child-rearing practices, and to apply them to modern parenting skills and 2) develop positive attitudes, values and skills that have roots in their cultural heritage.

Positive Indian Parenting draws on the cultural strengths of Native American child-rearing. The material in this curriculum has been developed through extensive consultation with tribal elders, Native American social welfare professionals and parents. The result is a curriculum that focuses on the positive values of the traditional ways as a model and seeks to help parents decide for themselves what kind of parent they want to be.

Included in the eight sessions are:

- Traditional Parenting – history, cultural strengths
- Lessons of the Storyteller – communication, values, observation
- Lessons of the Cradleboard – bonding nurturing, development
- Harmony in Childrearing – balance, family structure, self-control, prevention
- Traditional Behavioral Management – guidelines, limits, discipline
- Lessons of Mother Nature – living skills, social skills
- Praise in Traditional Parenting – positive reinforcement skills
- Choices in Parenting – setting goals, what kind of parent you want to be

The class incorporates traditional components such as smudging, prayers in the Anishnabe language, Seven Grandfather teachings, the talking feather, and giveaways. Guest speakers may be invited from time to time to share storytelling, singing, cradleboard demonstration, or tribal ceremonies and customs.

We welcome single mothers and fathers, two-parent families, grandparents, perspective parents, step-parents, foster parents, or anyone who is facing the challenge of raising children. The class accepts referrals from the courts, DHS, local schools, and other tribal departments as a culturally appropriate alternative to other parenting programs offered in the community.

Even if you are not actively raising children you might find the class fun and informative. Past participants have said that whether they had a happy childhood or a difficult one, they gained a new understanding of their parents and themselves by examining their own family dynamics. We especially invite elders to come and share their experience and knowledge with our younger parents.

There is no charge for the class and a light supper will be provided, as well as weekly gifts for participants. For more information or to register for the class please stop by the Family Services Department office at 1762 US-31 S (across from KFC) or contact: **Kathy Lagerquist 231-398-6705** or **Shelly Kequam 231-398-6707**



*All children are gifts from the Creator.
They help us find out who and what we are as human beings.*

Comments from past participants:

"I loved this program...it helped me more than you'll ever know."

"It should be twice a day! Keep it going."

"I loved being able to exchange ideas with other parents."

"Extend it longer than eight weeks."

"My favorite part was passing the feather around and sharing stories."



The Peacemaking Talking Circle V



By
Patrick D. Wilson

The Peacemaking/ Probation Department would like to thank all of our community supporters, volunteers and Peacemakers. In our quest to provide the best service for our participants, the Peacemaking/Probation Department is always working to find better ways to heal our community, two people at a time.

The Peacemaking talking circle is the last piece of the puzzle in the Peacemaking program. In Peacemaking there are three different types of issues that come before the Department. We play a role in “mediating” issues in divorce proceedings; we see juvenile offenders and/or their victims; and we strive to help contentious parent/child relationships.

Divorce: We utilize two different approaches; one is reconciliation and the other is re-defining the relationship after the divorce.

Victims and Offenders: We search out the best way to bring the victim and the offender together and repair the relationship if it can be done safely. Parent/s and child(ren): most of the issues in these cases are “status offenses.” Young people charged with or found to be in a state of delinquency because of behaviors, such as school truancy, incorrigibility, cigarette smoking, sexual immorality and violations of liquor laws.

While conducting a Peacemaking Session, the participants may decide to utilize a Peacemaking Talking Circle hoping that it may be beneficial in starting the healing process and repair the relationship.

The Peacemaking/ Probation Department asks with the utmost humility for our Citizens to consider becoming a supporter, volunteer, and/or a peacemaker. We invite our community to come out and support the many activities, events and programs we help with, put on, and are involved in. Volunteers are needed to be part of our Talking Circles, and to volunteer to be Peacemakers to conduct peacemaking sessions. Here at Peacemaking/ Probation, we are working hard to keep our motto a priority,

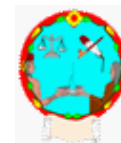
“Odenaang Enjinoojimoying” (A Place of Healing Many Hearts)

Patrick D. Wilson,
Peacemaking/Probation Supervisor
Phone: (231) 398-2239
E-mail: pwilson@lrboi.com

LITTLE RIVER BAND OF OTTAWA INDIANS
PEACEMAKING/PROBATION DEPARTMENT
“Odenaang Enjinoojimoying”
3031 Domres Road Manistee, Michigan 49660

Austen Brauker,
Peacemaking/ Probation Assistant
Phone: (231) 398-2240
E-mail: abrauker@lrboi.com

Come out and join us for our monthly Peacemaking Talking Circle



**Aanii piish (where) ... Justice Center
Wenesh pii (when). September 27th at 5:30**
NOTE: The meeting is the last Monday of every month.



THURSDAY, JULY 22, 2010 (FALMOUTH AIR BLOG)

House Passes Tribal Law and Order Act

Yesterday, the U.S. House approved the Tribal Law and Order Act, legislation aimed at improving all aspects of the justice system on Indian reservations and clearing up jurisdictional confusion among tribal, state and local law enforcement officials.

The legislation was included as part of H.R. 725, the Indian Arts and Crafts bill, which received a 326-92 vote. It passed the Senate last month. It is now on its way to President Obama, who is expected to sign it.

The bill was authored by U.S. Sen. Byron Dorgan (D-N.D.), chairman of the Senate Committee on Indian Affairs, who describes the legislation as a response to a "crisis" in Indian Country law enforcement.

On many reservations, violent crime rates are far higher than the national average. On the Standing Rock Sioux Reservation in North Dakota, for

instance, the rate was 8.6 times higher in 2008.

Violence against Native American women has reached epidemic levels, with more than one in three being a victim of rape and two in five that will suffer domestic or partner violence in their lifetimes, as reported by the Department of Justice and Centers for Disease Control.

Getting the bill enacted has been one of Dorgan's top priorities as Chairman of the Senate Committee on Indian Affairs.

"Every American has a right to live in a safe community. That certainly includes the First Americans," he said in a press release issued yesterday by the committee.

"The legislation takes several steps toward creating better federal accountability over Indian Country crime," Stacy Leeds, professor and Interim Associate Dean for Academic Affairs and director of the Tribal Law and Government Center at the University of Kansas School of Law, told *AIR*.

For example, federal officials have declined to prosecute more than 50 percent of violent crimes in Indian Country. The bill requires the DOJ to maintain data on criminal declinations and share evidence with tribal justice officials when a case is declined.

It also requires Indian Health Service facilities to implement consistent sexual assault protocols and requires federal officials to provide documents and testimony gained in the course of their federal duties to aid in prosecutions before tribal courts.

"The portion of the new legislation which will be most newsworthy to tribal communities is that the legislation amended the Indian Civil Rights Act's previous sentencing limitations on tribal court," Leeds said.

Under the Civil Rights Act, tribal courts have the authority to sentence an offender to no more than one year in prison. The new legislation increases the maximum to three years.



ThunderHawk Energy – a company owned by a Little River Band of Ottawa member and incorporated in 2009 has been awarded recognition from the American Indian Chamber of Commerce as their Large Business of the Year!

Owner Ron Spoerl said that,... this started with our first project...with contacts and vendors all over the world as we went right to the top...Along with our vendors and of course our attorneys we investigated the project to make sure it was a real International Project. It was, we went after it and are pleased to report that ThunderHawk will act as the procuring agent for "ALL" Solar Panels, Invertors and Racking for the project.

We looked at this project as a huge opportunity to bring so many vendors together. It is one of the largest solar projects in the world, 1000 MW - It is a Billion dollar project estimated to go for 5-7 years.

We anticipate beginning to order product this fall of 2010 and are pleased to report that most of our vendors are from Michigan!!

About how many homes will 102 megawatts power? Average power consumption for a home ranges from 0.9 to about 1.6kWh per month (depending on geographical location). If you assume an average load of 1kWh per month per household, and a 40% load factor, a 102MW facility will power about 29,000 homes. We have 1000MW to accomplish and are starting with 50MW this year.

(From American Indian Report, a publication of Falmouth University) A domestic violence program funded by the Administration for Children and Families and the Indian Health Service has showed dramatic success at improving the health system's response at IHS facilities across the United States, according to Building Domestic Violence Health Care Responses: A Promising Practices Report, published this week by the Family Violence Prevention Fund.

The program, called the IHS/ACF Domestic Violence Project, began in 2002. It included routinely screening women for domestic violence when they sought services at more than 100 participating IHS facilities in 18 states as well as training staff members at these facilities and domestic violence advocacy programs across the country on domestic violence health system change, the development of community-wide domestic violence response teams, creating patient education materials and other components.

When the program began, only 4 percent of women at IHS facilities were screened by doctors and nurses for domestic violence. By 2009, when the program ended, 48 percent were being screened.

"In Indian country, health care providers are often the first responders to domestic violence, and the health care setting offers a critical opportunity for early identification and primary prevention of abuse," said Anna Marjavi, FVPF program manager and co-author of the Promising Practices report, said in a press release.

URGENT NOTICE

There are changes happening with the Michigan Indian Tuition Waiver. Since 1996 the Michigan Indian Tuition Waiver (MITW) has been processed by the Inter Tribal Council of Michigan, Inc. As of July 2010, the MITW is now being handled by the Michigan Department of Civil Rights. We received the new applications on July 16th. The applications are now available for you to print from the tribal website

(<https://www.lrboi-nsn.gov/education/docs/MITW%20Application.pdf>)

If your MITW verification was completed prior to 2008, you **must** submit a new application to the Michigan Department of Civil Rights. Print off a new application, make a photocopy of your Michigan Driver's License or state issued ID, and a copy of your Tribal ID card, fill out the application and send them to the Tribal Education Department at 375 River Street, Manistee, MI 49660.

If you have never used the MITW and this is your first time applying, (or if you've just recently applied for the summer or fall semester), you **must** complete the new application. There are people who are in the process of applying and have submitted the older Inter Tribal Council application. These applications will not be processed. You will need to submit a new application. The Education Department will be notifying those students for whom we have unprocessed applications.

If you have been recently certified for the MITW- since 2008- then you will be allowed to submit a copy of your old application along with a photocopy of your driver's license/state ID, photocopy of your tribal ID, and certification of membership from the Enrollment Department. In truth, it may be just as easy for you to fill out the new application as well.

Please do not delay in applying, or reapplying as the case may be, because the fall semester is nearly upon us and this change is applying to every tribe in the state. It should not be a long wait, but it will be best to get it done as quickly as you can. If you have questions, please contact the LRBOI Education Department.



Michigan Department of Civil Rights Legal Determination Applicant Eligibility under the Michigan Indian Tuition Waiver Act

July 13, 2010

Michigan Public Act 174 of 1976, which is commonly referred to as the Michigan Indian Tuition Waiver Act (MITWA), provides that Michigan's public colleges and universities "shall waive tuition for any North American Indian who qualifies for admission...and is a legal resident of the state for not less than 12 consecutive months."

The Statute, which can be found at MCL 390.251 et. Seq., defines a North American Indian as "a person who is not less than ¼ quantum blood Indian as certified by the persons tribal association and verified by the (Michigan Department of Civil Rights).

When originally enacted in the 1976, the Act did not provide for reimbursement. It merely required that the universities waive tuition for qualified students, leaving the schools to absorb all costs associated with doing so.

Two years later, the legislature, recognizing that absorbing the costs unfairly burdened some institutions more than others, added a provision requiring that the state reimburse schools whatever costs they incurred. As part of the reimbursement process, the amended Act required that a student's eligibility first be "certified" by the appropriate tribal association and then "verified" by the Michigan Commission on Indian Affairs. (MCIA).

The MCIA verified the eligibility of students for whom the State was providing reimbursement until approximately 1997. In passing the FY 1996/97 budget, the legislature removed the budget line item for reimbursement until approximately 1997. In passing the FY 1996/97 budget, the legislature removed the budget line item for reimbursement and folded reimbursement funding into the general base per pupil funding provided to the institutions. Based upon this change, the MCIA role in providing the direct reimbursement was terminated. Verification of the individual tribal certifications has subsequently been conducted by the Inter-Tribal Council of Michigan (an organization consisting of the 12 federally recognized tribes with a presence in Michigan). In November of 2006 voters passed Proposal 2 of 2006, which added Article I, Section 26, to the Michigan Constitution. It provides that Michigan colleges and universities "shall not discriminate against, or grant preferential treatment to and individual or group on the basis of race, sex, color, ethnicity, or national origin."

In the March 7, 2007 report "*One Michigan at the Crossroads: An Assessment of the Impact of Proposal 06-02*", the Michigan Civil Rights Commission and Michigan Department of Civil Rights determined that because the United States Supreme Court has specifically held that tribal status is a political category based on the relationship between the federal government and the tribes sovereign entities, the Indian Tuition

Waiver Act is based upon a political classification and therefore does not violate Article I, Section 26. The State Universities of Michigan Presidents Council recently expressed to the Michigan Department of Civil Rights its concerns that there was no Michigan entity involved in the MITW process ensuring that it was not permitted to exceed the Art. I, Sect.26, constitutional restrictions. MDCR has determined that, as the entity given the duties and powers formerly held by the MCIA; it will assume the responsibility of verifying all MITW applicants beginning with the 2010 fall term.

Having assumed this responsibility, MDCR must resolve the question, left open in the 2007 "*One Michigan*" report, of whether MITW eligibility must be restricted to only American Indians who are affiliated with federally recognized tribes. We find multiple reasons to conclude the answer must be yes.

First, we look to the plain meaning of the language used in the MITW Act. MCL 390.251 (1), which limits waiver to persons "not less than ¼ quantum blood Indian as certified by the person's tribal association." This clearly indicates the legislature's intent that the tribal affiliation of applicants for tuition waiver be attested to by the applicable tribal organization. It strains reason to suggest that the legislature would require such verification, but accept it from organizations that were not properly recognized. In particular, the use of the word "certified" evidences the intent to involve a recognized entity that the State can rely upon.

Moreover, the only case under the MITW Act to be litigated specifically turned on the question of federal recognition. *Lumbees v Robeson*, involved a claim for tuition waiver by students affiliated with the "Lumbee Tribe." The Lumbee tribe is unique in that it is the only American Indian tribe that the US government has formally recognized as American Indians while also denying them the services provided to recognized tribes by the US Bureau of Indian Affairs. The principal issue in the case was whether the Lumbee could be recognized for the purpose of the tuition waiver as a "tribal authority" in the absence of clear declaration of federal recognition. Based upon the unique situation of the tribe, which was formally recognized by the State of North Carolina and the National Congress of American Indians, Michigan entered into a Consent Judgment. As incorporated by the Court's Final Order, the Michigan agreed to treat the Lumbee "as a bona fide Indian tribe" for purposes of MITW, even though federal government had "taken no clear and dispositive action either recognizing or refusing to recognize" them. The Lumbee, who per the Court order are therefore treated as federally recognized for the purpose of receiving tuition waiver under the MITW Act, also remain the only American Indian entity in this unique gray area of partial federal recognition.

Even if the MITW Act independently is not read to limit tuition waiver only to persons affiliated with recognized tribes, the addition of Article I, Section 26 to Michigan's Constitution requires that the waiver not be provided to others.

First and most clear, if the MITW Act is considered to be the fulfillment of a treaty agreement enforceable under federal law, it would fall under the exception to I/26's "preferential treatment" prohibition. Such treaty obligations would obviously only exist with tribes that are federally recognized.

Furthermore, determination that the MITW Act survived enactment of Art. I, Sect 26, was based upon the United States Supreme Court's determination that tribal status is a political category based upon the relationship between US government and tribes as sovereign entities. It is based upon the Supreme Court's determination that "preferences" granted by the Bureau of Indian Affairs were not based upon an individual's race or national origin, but upon their affiliation with quasi- sovereign tribal entities, that the Michigan Civil Rights Commission and Department of Civil Rights have determined that the provisions of the MITW are also not based upon the characteristics covered by I/26's prohibition. The conclusion that the MITW Act is based upon "political" relationships, however, limits its application to only those persons affiliated with tribal entities with which political recognition exists.

It has long been held that, "When there are two possible interpretations of a statute, by one of which it would be constitutional and by the other it would be constitutionally suspect, it is our duty to adopt the one that will save the statute. Therefore, the mere fact that the MITW Act might be read to apply to American Indians not affiliated with federally recognized tribes, does not render it void. It merely limits the Act's application to those recognized tribes.

The Michigan Department of Civil Rights is thus required to "verify" as eligible, only applicants who are certified by their *federally recognized* tribal association to be enrolled members who are not less than ¼ quantum blood Indian.

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@ 231-723-7250

email:

ymshkigwaasange@yahoo.com

Tribal Government Internships



Tribal Members interested in doing an
internship with the L.R.B.O.I. Tribal
Government Office please contact:
Department of Commerce:
231-398-6806

Government Closes for the following Holidays

- *New Years Day
- *Treaty Recognition Day
- *Memorial Day
- *Independence Day
- *Labor Day
- *Reaffirmation Day (September 21st)
- *Veteran's Day
- *Thanksgiving Day
- *Friday after Thanksgiving Day
- *Christmas Eve Day (Half Day)
- *Christmas Day

Some areas of the government will be continue to be
available on these holidays, such as Public Safety.
Currents will inform you of any scheduled closings of
the Government facilities. It's always a good idea to call
first if you are not sure.

Just use the toll-free number of 888.723.8288.

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Office 231-788-2123

The Warriors Society is
gathering photographs of members to be
usewhen thier office opens.

Please send photos of
our Warriors either in
uniform or in
civillian dress to
the address below



WARRIORS SOCIETY

Little River Band of Ottawa Indians,
Warriors Society,
375 River Street, Manistee, Mi. 49660

Attention all Tribal Members

Commissions/Committees:

The following commissions have current openings.

Gaming Commission	2 openings
Health Commission	2 openings
Binojeeuk	2 openings
LRCR Board	2 openings

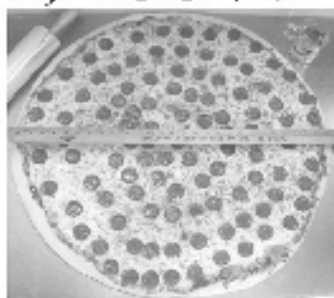
Letters of interest will be kept on file for one year

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4:30PM TILL 10:00PM
FRI-SAT
4:30PM TO 1:00AM



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The law firm of Fredericks Peebles & Morgan LLP is pleased to announce the addition of John F. Petoskey as a new Partner in our Law Firm, as well as the opening of our new office in Michigan to provide enhanced service to our valued clients.



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Fredericks Peebles & Morgan LLP is a full service law firm that limits its practice to Indian tribes and Native American organizations throughout the U.S.

The Traditional Woman of the Pokagon Band Community are hosting the 3rd Annual Sunrise Ceremony & Women's Water Walk
Friday September 3, 2010 at 7am
Ceremony & Walk begins at our Gage St Property & ends at Rodgers Lake



64264 Gage St

Dowagiac, Mi 49047

This walk is held every year before the Kee-Boon-Mein-Kaa Powwow to honor the waters of the Pokagon Band homelands.

Everyone who wishes to support the women & their effort is welcome to join in on the walk. For more information, contact Alycia at 231-578-4373



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Natural Resources Presentation & Luncheon

There was a festive air at the Aki Maadiziwin Community Center on Saturday the 10th of July as the LRBOI Natural Resources Commission and Department held a presentation and drawing for 2010 permits .

Elder Bill Memberto opened the assembly with a prayer and then NR Director Jimmie Mitchell began the program while everyone feasted on a delicious luncheon prepared in the newly updated kitchen.

Staff members Marty Holtgren, Dr. Jill Witt and Chris Eilers gave presentations on their program including some exciting news from Marty about a 'Nme (Sturgeon) which had been raised in the tribes' streamside rearing facility. It was about 6" long when released in 2006 and was recently caught south of Ludington. It had grown to over 2 feet in length! A great testament to yet another successful program from our tribal Natural Resources Department!

Following the presentation, the Natural Resources Commission Chair, Herman Gamelin held this year's drawing for the Elk and Black Bear permits. Winners of the Elk drawing were:

#	Last Name	First Name
E	Ray	Don
1	Raymo	Mark
2	Gamelin III	Herman
3	Johnson	Teresa
4	Moore	Lacy
5	Russ	Robert
	Theddore	Thaddeuss
6	III	J

Alternates

#	Last Name	First Name
2	Bowen	Farron
3	Fultz	Lawrence
4	Currier	Doug
5	Kunnen	Robert Connie
6	Walton	Marie
7	Gardner	Almon Jon
8	Aprill	Raymond J
9	Ceplina	Ralph
10	Shalifoe	Roger



Chris Eilers - Inland Fisheries Biologist



Director Mitchell address group



Marty Holtgren talks about 'Nme program



Helpers with drawing



Dr. Jill Witt, Sr.
Wildlife Biologist



Natural Resource Commission

Black Bear drawing winners on page 20



Hunting Area Maps

Winners of the Black Bear drawings

Mdaamini-Giizis (Corn Moon)
September 2010 Vol.7 Issue 9

Last Name First Name Drawn

Gardner	Almon	1
Leverich	Deanna	2
Palmer	Jerry	3
Currier	Douglas	4
Russ	Rober t	5
Adamczak	Edward	6
Wells	Corey	7
Moore	Lacy	8
Mitchell	Richard	9
McAlpine	Denita	10
Stone	Israrl	11
Routsaw	Ruth	12
Perzanowski	Tamra	13
Fultz	Lawrence	14
Nystrom	Pauleyn	15
Gamelin III	Herman	16
Witkop	Richard Lee	17
Bowen	Faron	18
Kunnen	Robert	19
Wahr	Thomas	20
LaHaye	Ken	21
Miller	Thomas	22
Raymo	Earl	23
Johnson	Teresa	24
Wahr	Michael	25
Terrell	Robert	26
Wilkerson	Heidi	27
Vanas	Jimmie	28
Raymo	Mark	29
Kunnen	Ken	30
Wilson-Fink	Alice	31
Updyke	Luke	32
Wolfe III	Emil John	33
Renner	Duane	34
Gardner	Rob	35
Aprill	Raymond J	36
Draper	Karen	37
Ray	Don	38
Harris	Haley	39
Collingwood	Wilber	40
Goodfellow	Cyril	41
Johnson	Virgil	42
LaHaye	Tressa	43
Wahr	Scott	44
Wahr Jr	Michael	45
Walton	Connie Marie	46
Turner	Angie	47
Ray	Dale	48
Ennis	Dale	49
Gardner	Richard Allen	50
Hill	Linda	51

Memberto	William	52
Waite	Joseph	53
Schondelmayer	Jon	54
Tyler	Todd Lewis	55
Giaimo	Marty	56
Ewing	Donna	57
Lewis	Wakinyan	58
Campbell	Charlotte	59
Cook	Janelle	60
Dame	James	61
Vanas	Roy J	62

HUNTER SAFETY CLASS

WHEN: SEPTEMBER 17TH
AT 6:00 P.M. TILL 9:00 P.M.

SEPTEMBER 18TH
AT 9:00 A.M. TILL 5:00P.M.

WHERE: 3031 DOMRES
RD. MANISTEE MI 49660

CONTACT: LRBOI DPEARTMENT OF PUBLIC
SAFETY

Call 231-398-3413 TO REGISTER

Or sign up by e-mail ymcshane@lrboi.com
Please call and sign up for the class, space is limited. Ask for Yvonne. All materials and equipment provided.

Parts of the class will be outdoors, so please dress accordingly. Class sponsored by L.R.B.O.I. Conservation Enforcement

Food Distribution Program (FDPIR) was created by congress in 1977 Food Stamp Act as an alternative to the Food Stamp Program for Indian Reservations. The program offers commodity to low income Native American households. No household may participate in both the Commodity Food Program and Food Stamp Program, but eligible households can switch from one program to the other at the end of each month. Eligibility and participation for FDPIR are based on application and certification requiring tribal status, income and resources qualification. In determining who is eligible for the program. We are federally funded by the USDA and they set the regulations and guidelines for the Commodity Program.

USDA Income

Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations

Net Monthly Income Standards

October 1, 2009 & October 1, 2010

Household Size Income Limits

1. \$ 1,044.00
2. \$ 1,356.00
3. \$ 1,667.00
4. \$ 1,991.00
5. \$ 2,329.00
6. \$ 2,666.00
7. \$ 2,978.00
8. \$ 3,290.00

For each additional member add \$ 312.00

Commodity Department serves 13 counties: Benzie, Grand Traverse, Lake Leelanau, Manistee, Mason, Mecosta, Muskegon, Newaygo, Oceana, Osceola, Ottawa, Wexford.

Office hours are 8:00 A.M – 5:00 P.M

Lunch hour is 12:00 1:00

Yvonne Theodore, Laurie Jackson

1-888-723-8288 ask for Commodity Program

Office # are 231-398-6716 or 231-398-6715

Tax-Exempt Quotas

Tax-exempt motor fuel monthly limit is 175 gallons per Tribal member.

Tax-exempt cigarette monthly limit is 20 packs per Tribal Member

New procedures coming for tax-exempt purchases at Little River Trading Post

Watch the Rapid River News and notices at the Little River Trading Post for more information as it becomes available.

Letters and Notices from Michigan Department of Treasury

At the 2010 State/Tribe Tax Summit, representatives from the State of Michigan asked Tribal representatives to remind members of the importance of responding to correspondence from the State of Michigan.

Prior to issuing a Final Assessment or Bill for Taxes Due, the Department of Treasury will often request information through a notice of Proposed Tax Due or Letter of Inquiry or Intent to Assess. These inquiries require a response within a time period that is specified in the notice. If you do not respond within the specified time, you may lose your right to appeal even if the notice or the tax due is incorrect.

Contact the tax office immediately if you receive correspondence from the Michigan Department of Treasury that you don't understand.

Resident Tribal Member Michigan Income Tax Exemption

Resident Tribal Members (RTMs) are exempt from State income tax on all Non Business income including but not limited to:

1. All income derived from wages are exempt whether the wages are earned within the Agreement Area or outside of the Agreement Area;
2. All interest and passive dividends are exempt;
3. All rents and royalties derived from real property located within the Agreement Area are exempt;
4. All rents and royalties derived from tangible personal property, to the extent the personal property is utilized within the Agreement Area, are exempt;
5. Capital gains from the sale or exchange of real property located within the Agreement Area are exempt;
6. Capital gains from the sale or exchange of tangible personal property which is located within the Agreement Area at the time of sale are exempt;
7. Capital gains from the sale or exchange of intangible personal property are exempt;
8. All pension income and benefits including, but not limited to, 401(k), IRA, defined contribution plan, and defined benefit plan payments are exempt;
9. All per capita payments by the Tribe to Resident Tribal Members are exempt without regard to the source of payment; and
10. All gaming winnings are exempt.

This exemption appears in the Tax Agreement between the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians and the State of Michigan.

It has recently come to the attention of the Tax Office that Michigan Treasury has sent a "Proposed Tax Due" letter to RTMs disallowing this exemption. If you have received a letter from Michigan Treasury disallowing all or part of your Resident Tribal Member exemption, please notify the Tax Office immediately at 231-398-6874.

National Night Out – Manistee!

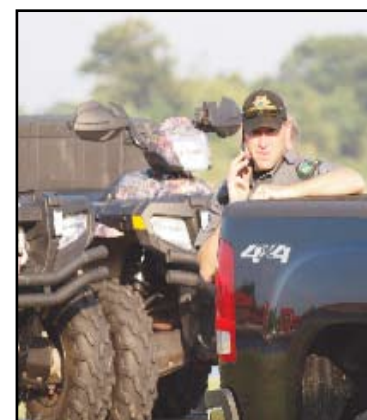
Mdaamini-Giizis (Corn Moon)
September 2010 Vol.7 Issue 9

Tribal Public Safety Lieutenant David DeForest spearheaded Manistee's participation in the 'National Night Out' program on August 3rd. The city joined 14,625 other communities across the nation in taking a visible stand against crime.

Tribal Public Safety Officers joined the Manistee County Sheriff's Office, Michigan State Police and Manistee City Police departments at the Lions Pavilion (First Street Beach) from 6 to 9 p.m. as residents came in for hotdogs, chips and pop and presentations ranging from demonstrations of K-9 units (Britt and Officer Mayo from LRBOI) to Mounted Posse, water safety and other safety information.

This was the first time that Manistee had observed the 'National Night Out' however, Lt. DeForest had been part of the campaign when on the Cadillac Police Department and he felt it was a worthwhile activity for the community.

According to Sgt. Steve Schmeling of the Manistee Police Department, "It's important to get the public familiar with the tools in the case of an emergency." Since the theme this year is safety for children, Schmeling talked about educating the public on what is available to police if a child is kidnapped or abducted at the event.





The Elders Meals program has begun at Aki Maadiziwin Community Center. Lee Ivinson, the Director of the Members Assistance Program talked about it in a recent message to the Ogema and Tribal Council:

Lee said, "I would like to take this opportunity in thanking the Ogema's office and Tribal Council for supporting the

Elder Meal Program and the Commerce Department for assisting with the upgrade to facility. Without this support the program would not have been implemented.

The Elder Meal Program is now providing meals at 12 o'clock to Elders Monday, Wednesday and Fridays at the Aki Community Center. This program is available for all Elders and their spouses at no charge who complete the Elder Meal Program Intake Form, individuals attending meal with an elder who do not meet the age requirement will be charge a nominal charge which is the average cost of the meal not to exceed \$5.00.

The monthly menu will be posted in the *Currents* and

Rapid River e-News soon. The program has been well received by the Elders who have signed up so far and continues to receive intake forms daily. I am charged with the management of the program. The staff in place for this program are the Elder Meal Program Administrator Noelle Cross, many may know her as she was with the resort prior to accepting the position, she brings a wealth of knowledge in the food industry, the program also provides for temp staff to work a set number of hours per week, Noelle is in charge of selection and supervising temp and volunteer helpers. We will be submitting articles into the currents to keep the membership informed.

This program DOES NOT prevent departments or individuals or community activities in using the community center, kitchen or equipment in kitchen. There are posted instructions for the use of equipment and there are minor areas such as elder food supplies and a few kitchen drawers that are specifically designated for the elders and are labeled accordingly. The kitchen has passed inspection by I.H.S. and this will be maintained along with the cleanliness of the facility. This will

rely on everyone to keep maintained for continued use.

Noelle's office is located off the kitchen as this was the only space available for her. We are always here to help! So should you need anything please feel free to contact her office.

It is not the intent of the Elder Meal program to "take over" the use of the community center but to blend with current and ongoing events such as Elder Wii Bowling, Clinics Diabetic talking circle etc. We have high hopes that this program will meet the goal of preventing chronic illness in our elders and increase wellbeing, socialization and health status of our elders.

If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me at anytime.

Lee A. Ivinson, Members Assistance Coordinator."

Intake forms are available at the aki center by contacting June Sam and they are also available in the Members Assistance Office.

Wii bowling Rematch

Elders, Tribal Council and Ogema meet at the 'lanes'

The Elders, Tribal Council and Ogema held a Wii bowling rematch on Thursday July 22, 2010 at the Aki Community Center. Tribal Council prepared a wonderful lunch of Indian Tacos with many delicious desserts.

The Elders' team consisted of Kathy Sam, Delano Peters and his wife Joan, Anna Taylor, Ron Wittenberg, Gary Dayton, Suzanne Moby, June Sam and cheerleader Katie Glocheski. Tribal Council members in attendance were Steve Parsons, Sandy Mezeske, Loretta Baccaria, Candace Chapman and Janine Sam. Ogema Larry Romanelli was also present sporting his new bowling shirt with the name "Twinkle Toes" on back.

All players gave it their best and Tribal Council was hoping for their first win. After playing two games each, the rematch ended. High score was given to Ron Wittenberg with a score of 278. The final total was Elders 1466, Tribal Council and Ogema 1108. We are looking forward to another rematch in the early fall.

After the games were over, Tribal Council and the Ogema presented the Elders with two new Wii game systems and informed the Elders that two television monitors were going to be installed at the Community Center. These Wii games will be housed at the Community Center and will be available to sign out for use at the Community Center. The Elders would like to express their appreciation for this gift and the continued support for this activity.

Anyone interested in joining the Wii bowling activity may contact Trish Snyder, Community Health Representative at 231-398-6629 or Holly Davis Diabetes Educator/Community Health Nurse at 231-398-6610. All Elders are welcome to join or watch others play. We meet on Tuesdays at 1 p.m.





Little River Band of Ottawa Indians Gathering Grounds

Sunrise Ceremony by Dan Bissell was held under tent #1 as it was just a bit damp to begin this year's Camp. Still people came, from Ohio, Arizona, Illinois, Oklahoma, Wisconsin, California, Virginia, Missouri, Ontario, Quebec and Michigan. 440 campers registered in all. Following the ceremony and breakfast, the regular activities got under way with Kenny Pheasant greeting everyone and then Ogema Romanelli offered a welcome on behalf of Little River Band of Ottawa Indians. Then the campers, in

the rainy weather moved out to their chosen presentations. This year there were presentations that continued with one topic all day among the scheduled topics, others rotated as usual. Kids' activities included games from Oklahoma and even Baaga'adowe (called the Iroquois game or lacrosse).

As noon approached the sun made a brief appearance, just in time to welcome the Council as they stepped up to serve lunch. It has become a tradition of the camp, Council serving lunch on Friday. The Ogema assisted, and so this year the "pickle off" was between the Ogema and Speaker Steve Parsons. {I'll call it a draw.} The Council and Ogema always seem to enjoy this annual event as they were smiling as big as the campers.

Chief Judge Bailey, the court staff (with their spouses) and some Public Safety personnel served the supper in another tradition of the camp. Even in the heat and humidity, laughter could be heard both from the campers and in the food service area. Once completed, the camp was abuzz with the talent show that showcased some really talented people.

Day two was a repeat, at least in the morning, of wet and warm; Sunrise ceremony, breakfast and presentations. The camp was filled with the happy sounds of the presentations, laughter and language. The sun again peaked out as the day wore on. After lunch everyone went back to "work". As the last afternoon event, Rex and Kalisha Burtrum from Oklahoma had a naming ceremony for their children. It was followed by supper. The campers were ready for the J-ingtamok, albeit smaller than two weeks ago. Host drum was Medicine Lodge, head veteran was Dan Bissell carrying the Vern Bissell Killed

in Action staff and the lead dancers were Andre Neebnagezhik (man) and Sunflower Wilson (woman). Doris Boissoneau and Helen Roy both served as MCs. The Tribal Education Staff was brought in by Martin Reinhardt, the Anishinaabemowin Migizi Aatig was carried in by Justin Martinson and Colleen Moore did a smoke dance.

Sunday began with the sunrise ceremony and then breakfast as did the other days but something was missing, rain. Final rounds of presentations then lunch of leftovers. Finally the give-away and camp is over.

The Director would like to express his deep gratitude to those who make camp possible: The Ogema and Council for their continued support and participation and Tribal Court for meal service. Little River Casino Resort, notably Ron Pete, Michelle Greve, Karl Waitner Jr., the Chef and cooking staff, the Porters and Dock crew (without whom no food is served). The Maintenance Department for the grounds preparation they were excellent. Melanie Ceplina, Virgil Johnson, Jeremiah Pheasant, Heather Pheasant, Annie Smith, Justin Martinson, Carol Gibner, Trisha Pheasant, Steve Knauff. Nadine Pheasant, Matthew Chandler, Ben Hamilton, there are always those whose name I miss and the staff Terri Raczkowski, Valerie Chandler, Mack Brushman and Kenny Pheasant for their superior effort before, during and after the event.



Respectfully submitted:
Jay Sam

First of all I say kchimiigwech to all that volunteered for the language camp and to the Historical Preservation Department for all of their efforts to make this camp successful.

Also all the LRCR staff that contributed I say miigwech. You are all awesome.

Our total number of quests that registered was down this year probably due to the weather and also maybe because we did not do a mailing invitation. We depended on the website and word of mouth also last year we did not know where we were going to hold the camp maybe inside the LRCR Conference Center because of budget cuts but LRB Tribal Council gave us a good budget to use. We produced our program book that lists all the presentations and Bio's in house this year and we also produced a calendar that list all the activities that our department does through out the year. We saved some money by doing these projects in-house so I think that we can afford to do a mailing invite. I know not everyone registered that attended camp especially the volunteers like Tribal Council and Justice Department, they just started working. We had a camp wrap meeting already and everything went well as planned.

The workshops were great and the presenters were awesome again. We had a great talent show Friday evening and a well attended Jiingtamok on Saturday evening. My high school students were the lead dancers, Andre Niibiniigiizhik and Sunflower Wilson. The places that our guests came from were Oklahoma, Michigan, Illinois, Ontario, Virginia, Ohio, California, Quebec, Wisconsin and Arizona. We had 14 flags that flew during the weekend, one new one, Whitefish River 1st nation from Ontario.

A woman approached me during the weekend and told that her mother wrote in her Will that she is donating a part of her Will money to the language camp. During the weekend a man lost his keys and walked all over the camp grounds on Saturday and finally when he fell asleep that night he had a dream of his parents and have past away in the spirit world many years ago and they spoke to him and told to look in his bag one more time and he did at 5:30 in the morning and there they were. He was very moved by his dream and so was I. We had sunrise ceremonies every day and we had a naming ceremony on Saturday afternoon.

Another thing that I am concerned about is the amount of time that employees have to take off before both events that our department works (Jiingtamok and language camp). It is a struggle to work these events when we lack working employees, should we look at paying them overtime. I don't know but we go through this every year.

Oh before I forget "Anishinaabemowin" is now on face book and so is "Language Camp". My high school students put up "Anishinaabemowin" and my kids put up the "Language Camp". Another thing that stands out and deserves mentioning and many have commented on it is how the teenagers serve our elders and handicapped with great honor and respect. I will have to tell you the story of how this process started one day. It is very emotional and it is about my son.

All in all I thought that we hosted a great language camp this year, very manageable, the crowd was not over whelming. We read all the camp evaluations and everyone seemed like they enjoyed themselves learning and hearing our wonderful language.

Miigwech to all
Kenny Neganigwane Pheasant





Members Assistance Department Current Assistance Programs



FY2010 Members Assistance Department Programs

Programs are available in ALL STATES with the exception of the grant funded programs as noted in program listing.

***Food Assistance Program**

This program provides assistance to members who meet the eligibility requirements and are experiencing a dietary/food crisis. Assistance is available in all states. Assistance is subject to available funding. If household is receiving food assistance from another agency, it is the responsibility of the applicant to verify with agency to ensure accessing this program will not affect current benefits. Submission of receipts is a requirement of this program. Eligibility Requirements:

- Tribal member is a permanent member of the household
 - Household income does not exceed the income criteria; 175% of the FPIG
 - Amount of assistance: Up to \$300.00 per year; per household.
-

***Low Income Energy Assistance Program**

This program provides assistance to members who meet the eligibility requirements and are experiencing an energy crisis. Assistance may be accessed once per year up to maximum amount not to exceed \$300. Assistance is available in all states. Assistance is subject to available funding. Eligibility Requirements:

- Tribal member is a permanent member of the household
 - Household income does not exceed the income criteria; 175% of the FPIG
 - Received a shut off notice from utility vendor
 - Received a denial from an outside agency for utility assistance
 - Amount of assistance: Up to \$300.00 per year; per household.
-

***Emergency Transportation Assistance**

The Emergency Transportation Assistance Program assists members experiencing a transportation crisis.

Program scope for assistance is repair or replacement of mechanical and/or electrical items required for proper vehicle operation and maintenance of safety items.

- Tribal member is a permanent member of the household
- Household income does not exceed the income criteria; 175% of the FPIG
- Vehicle ownership is in the name of the Tribal member or a residence verified permanent member of the household
- Vehicle areas in need of repair meet the scope of the program.

Amount of assistance – Up to maximum of \$400.00 per household.

***Elder Chore Assistance Program**

The Elder Chore Assistance assists elders age 55 and older. This program is intended to provide limited, short-term financial assistance to eligible Elder members who are disabled and are limited in their ability to perform routine household chores essential to their health and safety and have no other recourse for assistance.

There is no income requirement for this program. Elder must be a permanent member of the household and must provide proof of a permanent or temporary physical disability. Temporary disability shall be for no less than 30 days and shall be verified by documented evidence of temporary disability from a qualified mental health professional or medical professional. Permanent disability shall be verified by documented evidence from a qualified mental health professional or medical professional.

The assistance for elder chore services are identified in the categories below;

- Snow Removal from drive way and sidewalks

Elder Chore section cont. on next page

- Weather stripping around doors and windows
- Grass cutting, leaf raking and removal, general clearing of debris around home
- Gutter cleaning
- General cleaning of the household including but not limited to dusting and cob web removal, vacuuming, trash removal, bathroom cleaning of toilets and water closets, dishwashing, laundry, scrubbing floors and walls, cleaning of appliances, washing windows, stripping and making of beds
- Circumstances that are outside the scope of items listed may be applicable to the program scope only if left un-serviced poses a threat to the health and safety of the elder.

Amount of Assistance – Up to maximum of \$400.00 per household

***Rental and Mortgage Assistance Program**

This program provides assistance to members who meet the eligibility requirements and experiencing a housing crisis. Assistance is available in all states. Assistance is subject to available funding. Program may be access once every two years. Eligibility Requirements:

- Tribal member is a permanent member of the household
- Household income does not exceed the income criteria; 175% of the FPIG
- Received a court ordered eviction or foreclosure notice
- Relocation to affordable housing
- Relocation due to loss of housing due to natural disaster
- Relocation due to substandard housing as documented by an inspector
- If program has been accessed in the past, received a denial from an outside agency for assistance.
- Amount of assistance: Equivalent to one month's rent or mortgage payment not to exceed program maximum program amount available to prevent or resolve housing crisis.

HOUSEHOLD INCOME- (Tribally funded programs) – Household income eligibility determination is based on three **(3)** months income prior to application. Applicant must provide proof of income for three months. Applicant and/or permanent household member shall complete the zero income form for periods within the three months where there is no income generated. Income requirement includes all individuals in household age 18 and older.

Deductions from Gross Income: Child support paid out and unreimbursed medical bills.

*Program can be accessed by the Parent or Guardian of a member who has not reached the age of 18 or the legal guardian of a member who has been determined by a court of competent jurisdiction to require legal guardian over the person and/or affairs, provided that the guardian is not the State of Michigan or other state government. This information must be on file with the Enrollment Department.

~THE FOLLOWING ARE GRANT FUNDED PROGRAMS AVAILABLE TO THE NINE COUNTY SERVICE AREAS OF MICHIGAN~

Funding Cycle will end September 30th – If you are in need of assistance it is important that you contact the office.

NOTE LIHEAP funds are available in all counties of Michigan, for the counties outside of the Tribal 9 county service areas the local Department of Health and Human Services administers this program under their guideline rules. LIHEAP is also available in all states through their local Health and Human Services and Housing Authorities.**

***LIHEAP**

Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (Heat Source – Natural Gas, Propane, Electric, Coal, Fuel Oil and Wood)

This is a grant funded program to provide assistance to members who meet the eligibility requirements and are experiencing a heating crisis and live in the 9 county service areas in Michigan. (Kent, Lake, Manistee, Mason, Muskegon, Newaygo, Oceana, Ottawa and Wexford)

- Amount of assistance varies according to individual income level, number of family members and available funding.
- Priority is given to Elders, Disabled and Single parents of young children.
- Eligible if someone in the household is receiving SSI benefits or are receiving Food Stamps

Individuals who reside outside the 9 county areas and states- LIHEAP is available at the state level. If you are in need assistance, contact your local Department of Health and Human Services for assistance.

ATTENTION TRIBAL ELDERS – LIHEAP –

Cooling Assistance LIHEAP Component- Tribal Elders

This is a grant funded component of LIHEAP to provide assistance to Tribal Elders who meet the eligibility requirements, have a medical condition that require air conditioning during hot summer months, are experiencing an energy crisis due to additional energy burden to operate the cooling system and live in the 9 county service areas in Michigan. (Kent, Lake, Manistee, Mason, Muskegon, Newaygo, Oceana, Ottawa and Wexford)

-Amount of assistance varies according to individual income level, number of family members and available funding.

-Medical condition and need for air conditioning must be certified and documented by medical professional.

- Assistance is available May 1, 2010 thru September 30, 2010.

REACH Program –

FUNDING IS LIMITED AND IS A FIRST COME FIRST SERVE BASIS – APPLY NOW FOR SERVICES!!!

The REACH program will be utilized to promote health and safety for low income households in need of assistance and education in reducing and controlling energy costs. Successful applicants will participate in a health and safety questionnaire and provide data for energy use and track the % of decreases in energy expenses over a 16 month period. **The focus of the program will be promoting energy efficiency, education in conservation of energy and budgeting skills to reduce energy crisis. The program will promote Energy Smart Bulbs , Weatherization & Education, Energy Smart Appliances , Smoke and Carbon Dioxide Detectors and Fire Extinguishers.**

Eligibility criteria:

- Enrolled member of the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians.
- Reside in the nine county service areas (Kent, Lake, Manistee, Mason, Muskegon, Newaygo, Oceana, Ottawa and Wexford)
- Household income does not exceed program guidelines
- Home must be the primary residence of applicant – (Reside in year around)
- Ownership of home/site must be in the tribal member's name where applicable and/or must have a 12 month lease / rental agreement.

REACH AND LIHEAP INCOME GUIDELINES ARE AS FOLLOWS:

LRBOI LIHEAP & REACH Income guidelines

Family Size MI Med=75,149		Heating Assistance & REACH Not to exceed 75% State Median Income	Crisis Assistance Not to exceed 150% FPIG
1		29,308	\$16,245
2		38,325	\$21,855
3		47,343	\$27,465
4		56,361	\$33,075
5		65,379	\$38,685
6		74,397	\$44,295
7		76,087	\$49,905
8		77,778	\$55,515
For each additional person after 6 add 3% for each person to 132% & multiply by 45,089. (i.e. 9 = 132% + 9% = 141% x 54,443 = 76,764)			Each additional add: \$5,400

Well and Septic Program

The Well and Septic is an Indian Health Services (IHS) funded program. This program promotes health and safety for our tribal members by providing new or renovated sanitation facilities (Well and Septic). This program is available in the nine county service areas. Applicant must be:

- Enrolled member of the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians.
- Reside in the nine county service areas (Kent, Lake, Manistee, Mason, Muskegon, Newaygo, Oceana, Ottawa and Wexford)
- Home must be the primary residence of applicant – (Reside in year around)
- Ownership of home/site must be in the tribal member's name.
- Project Site meets the I.H.S Eligibility Requirements.

A complete application and the supporting documents must be submitted in order to process any assistance request in a timely manner. Supporting documents are listed on the cover page of the application and are required at time of submission.

Please contact the Members Assistance Department for program information and/or to request an application. Applications and Program Regulations are available online at www.lrboi.com Members Assistance link

CALL TO ELDERS!!!

Elder Meal Program

The Elder Meal Program is now available at the Aki Community Center.

Meals will be served for lunch at noon Monday, Wednesday and Friday at the Aki Community Center located at 2953 Shaw Be Quo-Ung Manistee, MI 49660

One very important component of keeping elders healthy in their homes and communities is providing nutrition services. Adequate nutrition is critical to health, functioning, and quality of life. The purposes of nutrition services, activities and disease prevention education are:

- *To reduce hunger and food insecurity;*
- *To promote socialization of older individuals; and*
- *To promote health and well-being by assisting older individuals to gain access to nutrition and other disease prevention and health promotion services to delay the onset of adverse health conditions.*

Eligibility: Enrolled Tribal Elders age 55 and over. Also included in this eligibility are spouse of the eligible participant, handicapped or disabled individuals in the same household are eligible to participate when accompanying the Tribal Elder to the meal site. The meals are provided at NO CHARGE.

Guest Meals are available for individuals who would like to attend a meal with an eligible participant/Tribal Elder but do not meet eligibility guidelines. There will be a charge for the guest meal that is calculated according to the meal being served. Average cost is about \$5.00.

Donations are acceptable and will be used for program activities and to purchase food. At no time are contributions required however the offer to contribute must be provided per program requirements.

Monthly Menu – the menu will be published in the Rapid River News, the Currents, posted in tribal buildings and posted on our website.

Beneficial Activities will begin activities in September and will include fun games, educational presentations on Elder health and wellbeing and other activities of interest to our Elders. The activities portion of the program is a collaborated effort with tribal service departments and outside service agencies; we are hoping to have a well blended number of events on the September Menu Calendar. This calendar will be mailed to all Elders whom have completed their Intake Form.

Registration is required to participate in the Elder Meal Program with initial intake processes taking place at this time. If you would like to participate in this program please contact Lee Ivinson or Noelle Cross about this program. To complete the short intake process contact the Members Assistance Department or complete the form at the first meal you attend.

The many benefits of this program will be evident with more participation by our Elders. The next funding cycle is about to begin on this program and Lee Ivinson is actively working to secure this funding for the elders going forward.

Other Services:

- Referral assistance in finding assistance organizations and/or agencies to assist with needs that are not readily available or provided through tribal programs.
- Interdepartmental Referral Services that provided interdepartmental coordination and collaboration with tribal service departments when assisting members.

Department Staff

Lee A. Ivinson – Members Assistance Coordinator

Amber Moore – Intake Clerk

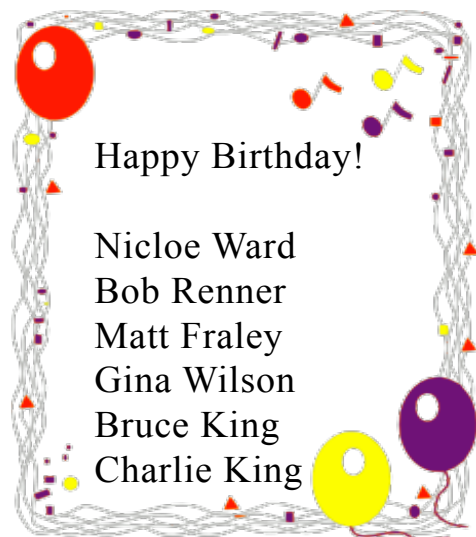
Linda Wissner – Intake Clerk

Noelle Cross – Elder Meal Program Administrator

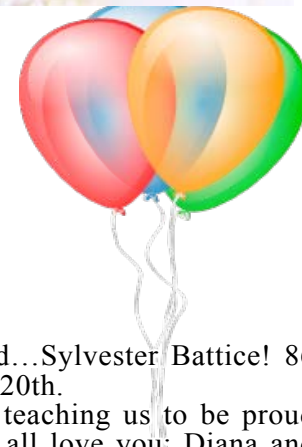
Office Hours Mon thru Thurs 8 am to 5 pm

Phone: 231-723-8288 or Toll Free 888-723-8288





A wonderful "Celebration of Life" was held on July 31st at Aki Maadiziwin for Bob and Mary Stone. Bob told the Currents that, "This was the most memorable experience of our lives. The out-pouring of love and caring was truly amazing. We want to thank all of our people (350 attended) for coming out at this time. Especially we would like to thank Pat and Alta Wilson and their children and Becky and Josh Stone for their work organizing the whole event."



Happy Birthday Dad...Sylvester Battice! 86 years old on August 20th. Thank you Dad for teaching us to be proud of our heritage! We all love you: Diana and Bob; Janet and Gary, your 5 Granddaughters and 13 Great Grandchildren. Also the love of your life for 66 years, Mom wishes you Happy Birthday too!

"Where Angels Come"

I watch over you as your illness takes control.

I try to gather more strength to pass it on to you, so you can get stronger.

I look into those eyes that once took on the world, I feel your strength

weaken as you try to fight longer.

My tears begin to fall to mix with yours, as I can still feel the baby you once were stirring within.

My heart breaks for lost days gone by

I try not to be selfish and cling to you for "us" because you see son we're not ready to lose you yet!

But the Angels are here now watching over you so they can give you your wings so you can take flight to the other see...

We all love you my son, the joys we have all shared, will be remembered by us all...

We're asking the angels to take care of you now; our hearts tell us they will stay by your side.

I dedicate this poem to my beloved nephew "Rick Drake" "Passed away May 30, 2010"

**By Bonita R. Billings
With all my love**



Little River Band of Ottawa Indians Annual Financial Statement and Single Audit Report for the year ended December 31, 2009, Has Been Received

The annual audit report for December 31, 2009, has been received by the Tribe. The audit was performed by the Rehmann Robson audit firm. The firm audited the Tribe's financial statements of governmental activities, business type activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information.

The auditors issued an Unqualified Opinion, which is the highest level of opinion that can be issued. This means that the opinion was "clean", with no qualifying exceptions. Also, there were **NO audit findings**, either of a Financial Statement nature or a Federal Award nature. It was an exceptional audit report and now will be accepted by Tribal Council and submitted to all appropriate agencies, ahead of schedule.

"This is a testament to the knowledge and dedication of the Tribe's Finance department. Every person that works in the Finance department contributed to the success achieved in this audit by performing their duties accurately, with accountability and professionalism", states Chief Financial Officer Steven Wheeler.

Finance department employees are: Tammy Bowen, Laura Waagosh, Sandy Chandler, Angie Stone, Melanie Ceplina, Brandy Martin, Dale Magoon, Bob Davis, Jason Verheek, Michelle Lucas, Cindy Gamelin, Mary Velikan, Robert Battice and Steven Wheeler.



Front row, left to right: Cindy Gamelin, Mary Velikan, Laura Waagosh, Tammy Bowen Middle row: Robert Battice, Bob Davis, Sandy Chandler, Dale Magoon Top row: Steve Wheeler, Jason Verheek, Brandy Martin

Not in photo: Angie Stone, Michelle Lucas and Melanie Ceplina



GLFT Board Tour Includes LRBOI

August 9th, 2010, the Board of Trustees of the Great Lakes Fishery Trust held their board meetings in Manistee. The meetings were based at Manistee National Golf Course & Resort. The meeting included visits to a number of sites in the area including two where the LRBOI Tribal Natural Resources Department is heavily involved. The tribal sites include:

A GLFT project which provides universal access via a shore-bound pier to the migratory fish species is found in the Big Manistee River. This is a collaborative project with the U. S. Forest Service and Little River Band of Ottawa Indians.

Sturgeon Rearing Initiative: Restoration Objectives and Status (also at Rainbow Bend).

The Little River Band of Ottawa Indians has taken a lead role in lake sturgeon research and rehabilitation. Because the Big Manistee River sturgeon population is small, the LRBOI's Natural Resource Department operates a portable



Streamside Rearing Facility where the young sturgeon are reared to a size at which their survival is greatly increased.

Other activities for the board included visits to the Arcadia Marsh Project; the Little Manistee River Weir and a ribbon-cutting ceremony at the Arthur Street Fishing Pier and Boat Launch.



Currents

You can find this and many other issues at lrboi.com

Megwa Ezhiweback



Mdaamini-Giizis (Corn Moon)
September 2010 Vol.7 Issue 9



Casino Golf Outing 2010

The Little River Casino Resort held their annual Charity Golf Outing at the Manistee National Golf course just south of Manistee on July 16th for the largest field ever. 144 golfers signed up to play!

Everyone gathered on what was a beautiful day and played 18 holes while the live band, “__Lookin’ Back” made some great music from their stage set up near the pavilion.

This year the following local charities will split the approximately \$30,000 raised by the golf event:

- Little Mary’s Hospitality House
- Manistee County Child Advocacy Center
- Manistee County Historical Museum
- Area 24 Special Olympics
- Casman Academy
- Manistee County Habitat for Humanity

The scores of the various teams including those from the tribal government and Casino staff are shown on the chart shown here. It is rumored to have been observed that Mark Dougher (Tribal Government) missed a hole-in-one by two feet!

Everyone had fun and said they are looking forward to next years’ event.

Little River Band of Ottawa Indians
375 River Street
Manistee, Michigan 49660

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Manistee, MI

Or Current Resident

